Hafa Adai!

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Navy: Groundwater study on Tinian done

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

» Additional study part of 'revised' EIS

The Department of Navy has completed its study on the groundwater aquifer on Tinian, according to the Marine Corps Forces Pacific, as Capitol Hill officials eagerly await a second wave of military studies on the impact of live-fire on the highly permeable limestone of Tinian.

"The administration is hopeful the Department of Navy will heed the concerns that were addressed—our comments, the EPA's (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), and local agencies," said the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in a statement to *Saipan Tribune* last night.

The highly permeable Marianas limestone—which underlies most of

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Partnerships with GRMC, GMHA sought

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

» CHCC wants to bring in specialty care to CNMI

Talks between the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the medical centers in Guam were made to establish a better partnership with regards to providing for the medical needs of the CNMI.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muna told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview that she recently met with the CEOs and chief medical operators of Guam Regional Medical City and Guam Memorial Hospital Authority.

Muña

Muna said among the topics they discussed is how best to provide specialty care to patients in the CNMI since it is not something that the hospital has but the Guam providers offer.

"We also talked about the possibility of them coming here," Muna said.

"[GRMC is] also open to the fact that they can bring the providers here," she added, "For GMHA, we're even talking about, if possible, affiliation."

Muna said it is still dif-

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Lion dancers spread luck as Year of the Monkey begins

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The sound of cymbals, drums, and a gong greeted the early morning crowd at the TSL Plaza in Garapan, signaling the start of the Chinese traditional lion dance. The Chinese Association of Saipan, CNMI had been performing the lion dance on Saipan for 25 years now.

The Chinese community on Saipan began the celebration of the Lunar New Year, which is also known as the Spring Festival, yesterday with the traditional lion dance. The Chinese are celebrating the Year of the Monkey, the ninth in their zodiac cycle of 12 animals with fire as the element.

Lion dancers from CAS visited more than 30 businesses and other establishments to perform and at the same time, according to their beliefs

See LION on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Chinese Association of Saipan lion dancers enter the lobby of the TSL Plaza in Garapan. The Chinese community in the CNMI welcomed the start of the Lunar New Year, the Year of the Fire Monkey, yesterday.

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The Saipan Cares for Animals is thanking members of the community who became new pet owners after their two-day Free Adoption program.
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OVERDRIVE
Since its rebirth in 1998, the Volkswagen Beetle has been the subject of a key question for those possessing a Y chromosome.
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LIFE & STYLE
Visiting chef de cuisine Jacky Yu of Park Hyatt Ningbo Resort and Spa said he had to be creative when preparing the menu the Chinese Lunar New Year celebration.
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Local

Consultant: ACG casino tax payout at $500M

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Over some 24 years, Tinian investor Alter City Group projects $500 million in tax payments from casino operations within their Plumeria Golf and Casino Resort, according to one of their consultants.

Macau-based Alter City Group has applied for tax breaks for a period of 25 years. But casino tax payments will not be subject to tax incentives, according to consultant Anthony Muna.

"Casino operations will pay all required taxes," Muna said in an email.

For the applied period of incentives—from year 2016 to year 2040—the resort project will make the following accumulated direct payments to the CNMI government and the Tinian Municipality: Hotel occupancy tax, $1.4 billion; payroll tax, $170 million; CRM permit fees, $2.7 million; casino license fees, $25 million; and public land lease, $153 million.

He said total direct payments will amount to $1.7 billion and total direct tax payments from casino operations is estimated at $2.2 billion.

Muna said the tax incentives requested amounts to $1.1 billion.

The net benefit to the CNMI—plus jobs, and other contributions—is $1.1 billion, according to Muna.

Under the CNMI's qualifying certificate program, ACG is requesting a rebatement or abatement of BGR Tax, Bar Tax, Income Tax, Developers Tax, and Excise Tax assessed over the period of 2016 to 2040

Muna said the total estimated taxes rebated or abated projected for the period is $1.1 billion.

ACG is requesting for an award of tax incentives under the QC program to undertake "this immense $1.2-billion project that will undoubtedly transform the Tinian economy and the livelihood of Tinian residents," Muna said.

Other benefits

ACG is planning to build a $1.2-billion project to be located at Puntan Diablo Cove in Tinian, occupying an area of 1.5 million square meters of public land.

"As a plane approaches the Tinian Airport for landing, passengers will be greeted with the sight of the resort immediately to the right of the runway," Muna said in his email.

The resort will have 955 positions to fill when it opens in 2019 after its first phase of construction, comprising 87 managerial positions and 868 non-managerial.

Muna lists the average salaries for managers at $54,000 per annum. For mon-managerial positions the average salary is $27,000 per annum.

In 2023, the resort will have 2,004 positions to fill comprising 182 managerial positions and 1,822 non-managerial

In 2040, the resort will have 3,542 positions to fill comprising 322 managerial positions and 3,220 non-managerial.

According to Muna, resort construction and completion as planned will take about 12 years. With projected commencement date of construction in August 2016 and with an estimated completion date of July 2027.

The resort construction is divided into three phases with the first phase further sectioned into "Phase 1A, Phase 1B, and Phase 1C." Resort construction being phased in will allow for orderly development of the property and for operations to commence as phases are completed.

Phase 1A completion will take 24 months (starting Aug 2016) with an estimated completion date of July 2018. Completed will be 150 unit villas and the casino. Operations for the completed casino and villas will commence in 2019.

Phase 1B and 1C will begin concurrently and projected to commence August 2018 and to be completed by July 2020.

Total cost for Phase 1 (A, B, C) is estimated at $445 million. A combined total of 1,789 units/apartments/rooms comprised of "villas, service apartments, and hotel rooms; a casino, an 18-hole golf course, and a club house will be put into operations. Utility infrastructure required to support the resort will be included in construction-power plant for standby power (the resort will hook up to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power to draw on excess capacity at the CUC power plant), a reverse osmosis water system, and a wastewater treatment plant," according to Muna in his email.

Public contributions

Muna lists a non-profit arm group, funds for ferry and public services as direct benefits, among other indirect benefits, as follows:

■ The "ACG Foundation" created as non-profit arm of ACG Inc. The foundation will oversee education and training of local residents to qualify for employment at the resort—at both managerial and non-managerial positions. It will also entertain, consider, and grant funds to assist civic minded non-profit organizations.

■ A pledge of $5 million to improve airport and seaport access to Tinian.

■ Engage ferry services, which will include not only the transportation of passengers but also vehicle, for "roll on and off" service.

■ Beach park facilities for public access along the beach at resort site to be completed in Phase 1A construction.

■ A health care clinic to be made available to the public. This will be completed in Phase 3 of construction.

■ Compliant closure of Tinian Public Dump by Febraury 2017 at estimated cost of $3.8 million. ACG took over waste management of the dumpsite in 2015.

■ The 5,000 construction workers required will need the lease of properties and buildings. The annual payroll of workers is estimated at $63 million.

■ Resort patronage of local vendors for fresh vegetables, meat, fish, goods, and services, with average local purchases in the first five years at $6.4 million annually.

■ Resort guests patronage of local vendor—at restaurants, shopping centers, or tours—is expected at 20,000 visitors per month by the end of 2020 when the resort has 1,789 units available for occupancy.

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CNMI qualifies for another $4M for small biz credit program

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI has crossed the 80-percent threshold qualifying them for the next round of funds for a U.S. Treasury-backed small business program.

Office of the Governor press secretary Ivan Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday they have disbursed about 81 percent, or some $3.5 million, of the first $4.35 million from Treasury toward the State Small Business Credit Initiative, a program that leverages private lending to increase the amount of credit available to small businesses.

Blanco

The State Small Business Credit Initiative began in March 2012 when the U.S. Department of Treasury approved $13.2 million in funding to the CNMI, an initiative borne out of President Barack Obama's Small Business Jobs Act of 2010.

SSBCI provides federal funding to states and territories to strengthen programs that support lending to small businesses and manufacturers.

The CNMI Department of Commerce received $4.35 million during the onset of the program, which is the first of three disbursements of the funds.

Department of Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman said they are continuing their work with the Commonwealth Development Authority to draw on the second batch of funding.

"We are doing our best to deploy funds as soon as possible to help businesses across the spectrum, from startups, refinancing, construction, manufacturing, and acquisitions," Rabauliman said in a statement.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres called the SSBCI program "essential to spur economic activities and contribute to business growth." "This initiative has spurred business expansions and start-ups that would otherwise have been shelved due to lack of cash flow or collateral," Torres said in a statement yesterday. "I am pleased that we have passed the 80-percent mark and are now eligible to apply for the second tranche. I'd like to thank Bank of Guam and City Trust Bank for being strong supporters and participants in this program, and I encourage entrepreneurs to talk to these participating banks to help you with your business ideas."

CDA is the implementing agency for the CNMI SSBCI Program. The CNMI is currently approved for two programs, which include the Loan Purchase Participation Program (LPPP) designed to assist lenders, and borrowers in financing diversification projects enabling companies to acquire necessary financing that might otherwise be unavailable due to a cash flow shortage.

The LPPP can help shortfalls in cash flow for new or growing businesses with up to 40 percent of the loan amount.

The second program known as the Collateral Support Program (CSP) allows small businesses to acquire necessary financing that might otherwise be unavailable due to collateral shortfall. The CSP supplies pledged cash collateral accounts to lenders to achieve this goal for approved projects. This can help fill shortfalls in collateral required by participating banks with up to 50 percent of the loan amount secured by cash deposit.

The SSBCI is available to eligible business owners and emphasizes the need for a strong business plan. Passive real estate, business investments, gaming, delinquent federal, or state taxes, and reimbursement of ownership interests are ineligible for this program.

Judge Camacho wants to hear implications of OAG statement

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

»OAG says people can lobby to lawmakers or avail of tax offsets program

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday set a status conference to hear, among other issues, the parties' arguments on the implications of the Office of the Attorney General's statement that to get payments from court judgments against the government, persons can lobby to lawmakers or avail of tax offsets program.

Camacho asked the parties in the lawsuit filed by couple Jotonia B. Aguon and Timothy Cruz to attend the status conference on Feb. 16, 2016 at 1:30pm.

Camacho said the parties should be prepared to elaborate on the implications of OAG's argument in the government's supplemental brief that "persons with judgments and other claims against the governments have lobbied for private bills to pay them."

"Is the Commonwealth's argument that, since parties must lobby the Legislature, only politically well-connected and influential parties are able to enforce their monetary judgments against the Commonwealth?" the judge asked.

Camacho said other issue to be discussed is whether oral arguments are necessary as to the supplemental briefs that the parties have filed.

The judge will also hear whether an evidentiary hearing is necessary to receive sworn testimony and/or sworn declarations from witnesses and admitted exhibits that may provide information that would be helpful to the court in deciding the pending motions.

Assistant attorney general David Lochabay, counsel for the government, stated that historically, persons with judgments and other claims against governments have lobbied legislatures for private bills to pay them.

Lochabay also stated that the CNMI has instituted a program where persons with judgments against the Commonwealth may obtain payments through tax offsets.

Lochabay discussed the court judgments issue in the government's response to Camacho's question is there is any other mechanism for Aguon and Cruz to seek payment of their judgment against the government in light of repeated failure of the Legislature to appropriate for court-ordered judgments.

Aguon and Cruz are holding a $35,000 judgment against the government over the death of their child during delivery in 2012 at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Camacho also raised other questions as he invited the Legislature, the Office of the Governor-Office of Management and Budget, and the Department of Finance to submit briefs or declarations over the government's failure to pay judgments in connection with two lawsuits, including the wrongful death filed by couple Aguon and Cruz.

NMC holds Counselors' Conference

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College held a two-day Counselors' Conference, bringing together counselors from the college as well as private and public schools on island last Feb. 4 and 5 at the Kanoa Resort.

Among the main speakers was Kurt Dela Cruz, a senior adviser from the University of Hawaii.

According to Dela Cruz, there are many things that shape the students that they are working with in Hawaii. Despite the image of their islands as paradise, Dela Cruz said there still are problems within the community particularly those who experience poverty and resort to crime.

"When you deal with the more needy communities and the more underrepresented communities, you have to take note of the trauma that has plagued the generations of people whether it has been from immigration or working or language barriers or whatever. We have to take that into account to see where the students are now in order to shape programs for the future," Dela Cruz said.

Dela Cruz also noted that most of the time, people living in the islands are afraid of change.

"Sometimes change is hard for people, even when life could be seemingly miserable," Dela Cruz said, "Sometimes [as] islanders, we have the thought to just kind of deal with it, everybody has hard times so we just deal with it as opposed to having a greater synthesis to move forward."

He also noted that it is important for counselors to come together and discuss the needs of their community as a whole and be able to share it with neighboring islands as well, which was also recognized by NMC dean of Student Services Leo Pangelinan.

"We're finding that more people outside of that fold and from different organizations, whether their title is counselor or not, can benefit from this kind of training and sharing of experience and knowledge," Pangelinan said.

Aside from Dela Cruz and Pangelinan, Greg Borja and Thomas Thornburgh of the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., and Dr. Cherrie Lovejoy of NMC were also among the speakers.

Breakout sessions were also held to discuss topics such as students' needs, legal and ethical issues in counseling, and the systems and mental healthcare, among others.

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Red Cross thanks partners, donors

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Officials from the Hawaii and California offices of the American Red Cross visited Saipan to thank some of their partners and donors during the wake of Typhoon Soudelor.

"They are out making a visit kind of a post-Soudelor. Its really to thank the donors, to thank all of our volunteers," ARC-Northern Mariana Islands chapter executive director John Hirsh said.

Among those that they visited was Coral Ocean Golf Resort where they met with operations director Dennis Seo and E-Land's Micronesia Resort Inc. chief executive officer Matthew Park.

Hirsh praised the resort's efforts after Typhoon Soudelor saying that they were among those who responded first and provided water for the people in need.

Red Cross Pacific Division vice president Michael Jordan they are proud of the work that they were able to do on Saipan.

"In behalf of the Red Cross and our donors and our partners, we're really proud to say that we're able to contribute and commit $5.5 million toward the response and recovery efforts," Jordan said.

"The outpouring support of the community and our partners has been incredible," he added.

Jordan recognized, however, that there are still work to be done.

"After the initial response, providing food and shelter and comfort, care items, now it's the recovery phase and so we're working on case management and with our partners and Federal Emergency Management Agency to try to help take care of those folks and get them to the right partners in the community to help them rebuild their lives," Jordan said.

He added that emotional healing for the people is also needed.

"It's almost six months post-Soudelor and the staff and volunteers that I had a chance to talk to are still emotionaly, even though physically it looks like things are getting better, I think emotionally there's still a lot of work and a lot of healing in the community," Jordan said.

Aside from Jordan, ARC-Hawaii chapter chief executive officer Coralie Chun Matayoshi and chief development officer Jennifer Dotson were also on Saipan for the visit.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER'S APPRECIATION WEEK CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Public School System joins the rest of the nation in celebrating the week of Feb. 8 to 12 as the National School Bus Driver's Appreciation Week. In this photo, the hardworking men and women of the school district's Pupil Transportation Office, led by program manager Kimo Rosario, pose for a group shot.

PARTNERSHIPS

From Page 1

ficult for them to recruit specialty care doctors for the public hospital. However, since Guam has doctors such as oncologists and cardiologists, they are working on getting those specialties on island.

"It's trying to make it easier for our patients, for CNMI residents to get access to quality as well as specialized care," Muna said.

She also recognized the importance of being able to bring in those providers on island, and bring them immediately, in case of emergency.

"In case there's an emergency, some patients are not able to be transported. So what do we do? How do we save the life of that individual? Sometimes the only way to do it is to bring the provider in," Muna said.

"Any life-threatening illness, time is always of the essence so we want to be able to have that option. We're grateful for them meeting with me to try and get these things happen," she added.

Muna said they are all excited and positive on the partnership and want to be able to move forward.

"They want to do it because no matter what, the patients come that way anyway," Muna said.

"It's just a matter of finalizing this deal, this agreement to make sure that, first of all, from the CMS standpoint, whether its telemedicine or the fact that they are visiting, we always have to have a contract and they also have to be licensed. Any physician has to be licensed in the CNMI In order to provide services in the CNMI," she added.

Savings

Director of Medical Referral Services Ronald Sablan said bringing in doctors here is ideal and will result in savings.

"I've always recommended in the past that we be able to bring in specialists in a rotation basis," Sablan said, "That will not only help us in sending people out just for consultation, but also on basic treatments. Assuming that the support staff and the equipment are here."

He said he hoped that there can be a way for the implementation of reciprocal license where a doctor practicing in Guam who met the requirements as a U.S. certified doctor can automatically be allowed to practice in the CNMI.

"That will be a great help for patients here. We can bring in those doctors that can come here. Instead of us sending the patients there to be seen by one doctor, the doctor can come here and see more patients," Sablan said.

Around 300 to 400 patients are being referred to Guam every fiscal year.

LION

From Page 1

and traditions, ward off evil spirits and spread good luck.

The lion—with the dancers inside—acted eating the head of cabbage, whole carrots, and a red envelope or *lai see* that contains money hanging at the door. The dancers were actually using their hands to pluck the cabbage, rip it to pieces, and spread it around.

"The cabbage, which is color green is the same color of the U.S. money, the dollar. It symbolizes money and wealth," said CAS vice president Ana Chan.

"The red envelope, which has money, attracts the lion so what they are doing is spreading it around and throwing it to people as if to receive the money and good luck," added CAS director for education Rose Chan, also a former president of the Chinese association.

Ping Wang, one of the performers of the CAS lion dancers, said that he had already played every part in their group, from being a musician to a dancer. Two people wear the lion costume that is made of bright-colored fabrics and ornaments, and they dance to the beat of the drum, gong, and cymbals.

"It was traditional for the kids in our village to learn the lion dance. I started very young, at around 6 or 7 years old. We practice everyday," said Guangdong native Wang, who has been performing for more than 15 years.

From the TSL Plaza—where they visited the Tan Holdings executive offices, legal department, and FHP Take Care—the lion dancers also visited Saipan Computer Services, J.P. Center, TransAmerica, Saipan Apparel, POI Aviation, Hannam Market, NIC Health/9922, Hyatt Regency Saipan, QQ Car Rental, Canton Restaurant, Majesty Restaurant, Kanoa Resort, Century Tours and Saipan Adventure (Kanoa), IShop Kanoa, DFS Kanoa, Subway, IT&E, CTSI, D&Q, Cosmos, Let's Go, Century Hotel, Dollar Days, Micro Beach Hotel, Fiesta Resort & Spa, IShop (Fiesta), Saipan Adventure (Fiesta), I Love Saipan (Paseo de Marianas), Chamorro House, Sun Leader Market, Hyatt Regency Saipan, I Love Saipan, Club C, DFS Saipan Limited, Louis Vuitton, Best Sunshine Live, and the Saipan World Resort.

The group also performed last Sunday night at the Tinian Dynasty & Casino where fireworks were also lit. They arrived at 3am on Saipan and started their program on the island at 8:30am.

NAVY

From Page 1

the military project area on Tinian and "creates high susceptibility to contamination"—was not fully considered in the Navy's earlier studies, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said in October. The Navy noted then that the limestone was porous—allowing water to readily flow through it—and that rainfall percolates rapidly downward into such rock—however—no discussion of the solubility of munitions constituents were included, nor were "any protections identified to prevent pollutants from infiltrating the soil and entering the aquifer," the EPA said then.

"The Tinian Aquifer Study is complete and will be part of the Revised Draft [environmental impact statement]," Craig Whelden, executive director of Marine Corps Forces Pacific, told *Saipan Tribune* in an email.

Whelden also said his MARFORPAC team was in the CNMI all last week conducting meetings on various topics with CNMI officials. One of the meetings was on Tinian potable water.

The military plans on drilling five new vertical wells on the land under military lease, from which to draw potable water.

"With regards to water usage on Tinian, DOD is working with [the] CNMI to develop an alternative that is consistent with the lease," Whelden said.

The forthcoming impact documents come after the military identified a need last October to undergo additional analysis of potential impacts to the ground water aquifer on Tinian; and coral on Tinian and Pagan, including related mitigation plans, among others.

"It was because it wasn't in the EIS to begin with," Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) said yesterday, referring to the EPA and CNMI Division of Environmental Quality-requested studies on impacts to Tinian groundwater.

Palacios, a former Department of Lands and Natural Resources secretary, said there have been a lot of anecdotal evidence, or people telling of the "hundreds and hundreds of airplanes and military activities on Tinian" and what these left on the island.

"Some of the chemicals are still there, are still found on the island of Tinian. Palacios said. "Drums of chemicals are still found on pastures. It'll be very interesting for EPA to take a closer look at the water lens in the aquifer and project forward and what other impacts this activity will have."

The military has laid out plans for four range complexes on Tinian inclusive of grenade, tank, pistol, and mortar activity, and have stated plans to drill five new vertical wells on Tinian from which to draw potable water.

Palacios said the live-fire training could have potential long lasting impacts on a "very fundamental, almost basic resource"—water.

"That is the most basic question that DEQ and EPA found lacking in the previous EIS study," he said. "You are talking about a substantial amount of live-fire and a substantial, protracted period of time—we don't know. They can exercise it for however long, or… stop" while "holding on to the lease," Palacios said.

CHCC among 5 chosen sites for pilot study

The CNMI has been chosen to participate in a pilot study program of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.

Among the areas in the region, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. was chosen to be among the five participants of the "Second Decade Community Planning Guide Project."

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, this guide has been developed to provide a framework to help community leaders build adolescent-healthy communities.

"We are excited to be partnering with you on this important project to improve the health and well-being of adolescents and young people in your communities and beyond," Region X health administrator and rear admiral assistant surgeon-general Dr. Patrick O'Carroll said in a letter to Amber Mendiola of the CHCC-Division of Public Health-NCD Bureau and Let's Move Marianas Alliance/ Youth Empowerment Alliance for Health.

The guide is intended to be used to produce a clear, coherent, multi-strategy community plan for promoting health and healthy development among that community's young people. It allows for each community to consider and include needs, gaps, and resources that are unique to their community.

"This is important for the CNMI for several reasons. We are the only jurisdiction that was chosen, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) recognizes the CNMI's commitment and concern for adolescent health, and we get the opportunity to participate in a plan that will be shared with health programs and departments in the U.S. nation," Mendiola said.

OASH said the CNMI site was selected for the project because of its "commitment to working in your community and interest in strengthening your strategies for working with young people 10-20 years of age."

Aside from CHCC, health centers in Davenport, Iowa, Fulton Country, Georgia, Lima, Ohio, and Beaumont, Texas will also take part in the project.

Mendiola said their initiatives have sparked the interest from OASH's contracted research and evaluation firm for the project, ICF International.

"I provided information about the Let's Move Marianas Alliance and the Youth Empowerment Alliance for Health, also known as Team YEAH. This sparked much interest from the representatives from ICF International.. They believed that the CNMI could act as an inspiration for many counties because we are doing so much for adolescent health with limited resources," Mendiola said.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muna said they are proud of Mendiola's leadership and are grateful for the recognition.

"We're very proud of Amber's leadership in both YEAH and Let's Move Marianas campaign and we appreciate the Dept. of Health & Human Services Region IX for recognizing this and recommending that we are included in the pilot study. Even with limited resources, CHCC makes things happen and this is just one of many projects that are successful because of the commitment of our staff in bringing good health to our people," Muna said.

"We are extremely happy to have been chosen and can't wait to begin this project," Mendiola added. ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

2 men get same 10-day prison term for instigating fight, domestic violence

A man was slapped with a 10-day prison term for instigating a fight, while another man was sentenced to a 10-day imprisonment for beating his girlfriend.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced Edwin S. Desin to six months imprisonment, all suspended except 10 days, for disturbing the peace.

Desin, 47, was ordered to start serving the prison term last Thursday. He shall be released from jail on Feb. 13.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja sentenced Allan M. Nishimura to 30 days imprisonment, all suspended except for 10 days, for assault and battery (domestic violence).

Nishimura was given credit for 10 days of time already served. It means that the defendant will not serve more time in prison.

Desin and Nishimura are both placed on probation for one year following their release from prison.

Desin was ordered to, among other conditions, pay $399.34 in restitution to the victim, Ricarte Dulcero Cainiela, for injuries/ damages resulting from the commission of this time.

In Desin's case, according to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Nov. 24, 2013, the defendant instigated a fight with Cainiela, causing several people to get involved and the police to get called.

In Nishimura's case, according to the factual basis of the plea deal, on Dec. 26, 2015, the defendant caused bodily injury to his girlfriend after he slapped and choked her.

Police said Nishimura accused his girlfriend of having an affair. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

MEETING NOTICE

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Friday February 12, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes
      a. Regular Board Meeting - December 23, 2015
      b. Special Board Meeting - January 21, 2016
2) **Old Business**
   1. Email Poll Ratification
      a. Lunar New Year Activities
3) **New Business**
   1. Renewal of Security Services Contract
      a. Inclusion of additional services
   2. Request from FESTPAC
   3. General Membership Meeting
      a. Nomination Committee
4) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
   1. MVA/CPA Joint Meeting
5) **Executive Session**
   1. Personnel matters
6) **Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

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2 plane crash survivors claim Dynasty owes them $1.3M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two plane crash survivors are claiming that Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, owes them at least $1.3 million for breaching their settlement agreements.

Attorney Richard W. Pierce, counsel for survivors Dr. Jun Takimoto and Tomoyuki Nagata, filed on Friday a motion asking the U.S. District Court for the NMI to enforce terms of their settlement agreements.

According to Pierce, as of Feb. 2, 2016, HKE owed the Takimoto family and Nagata $714,612.33 and $547,198.71 in principal debt and interest respectively.

Takimoto and Nagata moved the court to issue an order prohibiting HKE from the sale or transfer of its personal property, except in the normal course of business, such as in sale of food items to customers.

Pierce said his clients believe that the better way to proceed is through a freeze on sale/transfer and then hearing as soon as possible on how best the judgment may be paid.

By that procedure, the lawyer said, his clients are protected and the least disruption occurs to the operations of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Takimoto and Nagata were among the seven passengers of a Piper Cherokee aircraft that crashed on a farm in Upper Dandan en route to Tinian on Aug. 11, 2006.

HKE settled the lawsuits filed by the survivors, including one filed by Takimoto and his family and Nagata. The court subsequently dismissed the lawsuits in February 2010.

» Survivors ask federal court to freeze sale/ transfer of TD's assets

In dismissing the lawsuits, the court ordered that it "shall retain jurisdiction to enforce the terms of the settlement agreement should the need arise."

Pierce said the need has arisen, and that Takimoto and Nagata request that the court enter a judgment against HKE for the full amount due and owing to the plaintiffs.

Pierce said in April 2008, Tinian Dynasty ceased making payments on the agreements and the plaintiffs sued for torts and for breach of contract.

Tinian Dynasty settled the lawsuit and amended the initial settlement agreements.

Pierce said HKE has breached the settlement agreements in multiple ways.

The lawyer pointed out that payments were not made for the months of January and February 2016.

He said second, HKE filed for bankruptcy and third, the U.S. government seized assets from HKE, which assets were subsequently forfeited to the U.S.

Pierce asserted that the debts under the Takimoto and Nagata agreements are therefore accelerated with the entire amount now due and owing.

He said the settlement agreements are in Japanese yet payments are made in U.S. dollars.

Pierce said as of Jan. 28, 2016, the principal debt to the Takimoto family equaled 84.8 million yen and 1.4 million yen in interest, which accumulates at 10 percent per annum.

Pierce said at the Feb. 2, 2016, rate of one U.S. dollar to 120.60 yen, the amount in dollars as of Feb. 2, 2016 is $714,612.33.

At the current debt, the interest is 23,235.98 yen per day.

With respect to Nagata, Pierce said as of Jan. 28, 2016, the principal debt equaled 64.9 million yen and 1.0 million yen in interest, which accumulates at 10 percent per annum.

Pierce said at the Feb. 2, 2016 rate of one U.S. dollar to 120.60 yen, the amount of dollars as of Feb. 2, 2016 is $547,198.71.

At the current debt, Pierce said, the interest is 17,792.49 yen per day.

The lawyer said in addition, through Oct. 15, 2016, HKE owes Nagata 200,000 yen per month plus 10 percent interest if not paid timely.

15th CNMI Youth Congress to hold summit

The ongoing battle against "ice" will be the main topic of discussion when the 15th CNMI Youth Congress hosts its annual Youth Summit tomorrow from 8:30am to 3pm at the Napu room of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Professional guest speakers and each youth senator from the public and private school will be addressing the students who would attend the one-day summit.

The Department of Public Safety has declared a war against "ice" or methamphetamine, which has slowly become a menace to the community.

"Our mission is to have student leaders involved in serious discussions about issues affecting our island community," said Youth Congress Speaker Thomas Manglona II.

Asked whether they plan to put the CNMI-Guam unification issue on the topic of discussion, Manglona said they could do so in the next session.

"And the [Marianas Visitors Authority] held their tourism summit so we are focusing on other things," added Manglona.

The 30th Guam Youth Congress resumed their regular session last month where they discussed Resolution No. 17-30, which is "relative to opening the discussion of uniting the Chamorro people of Guam and the CNMI under one mutually respectful and understanding government." ***(Jon Perez)***

Daycare providers complete trainings

The Childcare Development Fund, or CCDF, under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs is required by the National Office of Child Care to provide training and professional development to daycare providers.

In doing so, CCDF partnered with the Northern Marianas College-Community Development Institute to facilitate trainings suitable to the needs of all daycare providers. The trainings facilitated by NMC-CDI included Administration and Supervision in Early Childhood Program, Child and Growth Development, School Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS), Infant/ Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ITERS-R) and Socio-Emotional Development. These trainings were attended by daycare and relative care providers.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Childcare Development Fund recently conducted training and professional development to daycare providers. Photo shows one of the participants being handed her certificate of participation.

On Jan. 15, 2016, DCCA-CCDF distributed certificates of training completion to the providers who completed all the required trainings for Fiscal Year 2015. They were also recognized for their hard work and perseverance.

A draft of the CCDF State Plan for Fiscal year 2016-2018 was also presented to the providers by the CCDF administrator Maribel Loste. The State Plan is due for submission to the Office of Child Care on March 1, 2016. ***(PR)***

Woman in fake marriages appeals to 9th Circuit her conviction, sentence

Qiong Lu Pua, a woman who was slapped with a 12-month and one day imprisonment for orchestrating two sham marriages so that her brother and friend could obtain green cards, is appealing her conviction and sentence to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Pua, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week about her appeal to the Ninth Circuit.

Pua is appealing the Ninth Circuit to reverse the District Court's denial of her motion for a judgment to acquit her of all charges.

She is asking the Ninth Circuit to also reverse the District Court's findings and application of the U.S. sentencing guidelines and the 12-month and one day prison sentence imposed on her.

Pua likewise has filed a motion requesting the District Court to allow her release pending the outcome of her appeal to the Ninth Circuit.

Pua is currently out of custody on conditions pending notification by the U.S. Marshal Service that the Bureau of Prisons has designated a facility and that she is to report to begin serving her term of incarceration.

Hanson argued that in light of the nature and substance of the issues raised on appeal, the court should grant Pua's continued release pending a decision by the Ninth Circuit on the appeal.

Hanson said Pua's minor son resides with her in Guam and the U.S. Probation Office has possession of the son's passport so therefore, she does not pose a risk of flight.

Hanson said Pua is not a danger to the community as she was not convicted of a crime of violence.

The lawyer added that neither defendant's appeal nor this motion for release are for purposes of delay.

Hanson said the testimonial and documentary evidence in this case does not suggest beyond a reasonable doubt that Pua became a member of a conspiracy to defraud the U.S.

Last July 31, a federal jury found Pua guilty of the charge of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. She was sentenced last Jan. 29. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP: RFP16-CHCC/CGC-001

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 09, 2016 TIME: 10:00 AM

"EVALUATION SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT CHCC'S ACCOUNTING OFFICE LOCATED AT DR. JOSE T. VILLAGOMEZ CENTER, CHALAN HINEMLO ROAD, LOWER NAVYHILL SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ JESUS BABAUTA
ACTING DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPY • CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP16-COTA/FTA-046

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 25, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PREPARATION, DESIGN AND LAYOUT OF THE 2015 FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER JANUARY 26, 2016 AT COTA OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR OF THE NMI RETIREMENT FUND BUILDING LOCATED IN CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; PROPOSERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH FTA FEDERAL CONTRACT CLAUSES AS APPLICABLE.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IF, IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP16-ZB-015

SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 26, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE ZONING BOARD OFFICE"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER, JANUARY 26, 2016 AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. DIEGO C. BLANCO, CHAIRMAN, COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD, CALLER BOX 10007, SAIPAN, MP 96950 AND DELIVERED TO THE ZONING BOARD OFFICE ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF JOETEN DANDAN COMMERCIAL BUILDING, SAIPAN NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, FEBRUARY 12, 2016.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IF, IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT, ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ DIEGO C. BLANCO
CHAIRMAN, ZONING BOARD

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

SCA thanks community's support

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Cares for Animals is thanking members of the community who became new pet owners after their two-day Free Adoption program held over the weekend at the animal shelter in Lower Base.

SCA president Jason Hudy said that 15 dogs have been adopted in the first two hours of Saturday alone. In total, 33 dogs were adopted on Saturday. As of press time on Sunday, only 27 dogs remain with six awaiting their new owners to pick them up.

"It was an outstanding reception by the community. It was everything that we hoped for. It is happy to see the new pet owners playing with their dogs," said Hudy.

"Thank you to all the new pet owners. What was especially wonderful was to see people weren't coming for guard dogs but for pets, which they want to become wonderful additions to their families," he added.

One female dog, which was pregnant when caught by the staff of the Saipan Mayor's Animal Control Office, also gave birth to eight puppies.

"But they are not yet up for adoption. They are still too young and are still being breastfed by the mother," Hudy added.

"We were wishing that all of the dogs got adopted but we are not expecting it to happen. We just wanted to lessen their number since we only have 40 kennels and we're over capacity."

The Free Adoption project was a joint effort by SCA and the Saipan Mayor's Office under Mayor David M. Apatang. SCA paid for each dog's $20 adoption fee, while new owners paid the $6 licensing and registration fees per year. All dogs adopted have been spayed, neutered, and vaccinated.

Guam veterinarians Dr. Jennifer Landis and technician Bambi Leone assisted SCA, local animal volunteers, and staff of the Saipan Mayor's Animal Control Office with the spay and neuter program.

Spencer Merchadesch, Rodney Babauta, Lee Mark Deleon Guerrero, Ton Leon Guerrero, and Jaime Toytoy are the staff of the Saipan Mayor's Animal Control Office. They have been patrolling the streets and catching stray dogs.

JON PEREZ

A boy plays with a puppy while waiting for his parents to process the adoption of their new dog in the Free Adoption Week program of Saipan Cares for Animals over the weekend at the animal shelter in Lower Base.

Traditional Japanese music at Himawari

An 11-member Japanese group will be arriving next month to hold a one-night concert featuring traditional Japanese music using the three-stringed shamisen instrument.

The concert will be held on March 31, from 6pm to 8pm at the Himawari Multipurpose Hall, which has a sitting capacity of 300. Tickets are $10 each and doors open at 5:30pm.

Himawari Saipan Inc. owner Itsuro Hosoda, through interpreter and manager Keisuke Noguchi, said that the visiting group's concert is part of their 10th anniversary celebration.

"This is the first time that we bring in the group of shamisen musicians here on Saipan. The leader of the group is my best friend. The members have been to Saipan, they regularly visited Saipan. But this will be their first time as a group," said Hosoda.

"My friend usually visits Saipan for sightseeing so I asked him, 'why not come here with your group and play traditional Japanese music with your shamisen.'"

The group will arrive on March 29 and will visit the Banzai Memorial on March 31 where they will also hold a 30-minute performance starting at 9am. They will also perform in front of the *mana'mko* at the Office of the Aging Center from 10:30am to 11am.

The concert is organized with the cooperation of the Marianas Visitors Authority and the Japanese Students Society of the Northern Marianas.

For more information, call Himawari at 233-1530 to 31. ***(Jon Perez)***

IMMEDIATE HIRING

Saipan Tribune is inviting qualified candidates to apply for **ACCOUNTANT** position.

Qualifications:

- Associates degree in Finance or Accounting
- At least three years work-related experience in financial accounting with an emphasis on receivables and payroll
- Proficient in the use of MS Excel, Word, and PowerPoint office
- Knowledge in SAP R3 FICO accounting system is a plus, but not required
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player
- Above average written and oral English communication skills

Interested applicants may submit resume or obtain employment application at Saipan Tribune, Inc. office located on 2nd floor of JP Center Building in Beach Road, Garapan. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than **5:00pm, Friday, February 5, 2016.**

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply

Northern Marianas College
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

Northern Marianas College is currently accepting applications for the position of President. The President of the Northern Marianas College serves as the chief executive officer for the Board of Regents and oversees a multi-campus college system located on three separate islands (Saipan, main campus; Rota and Tinian).

Northern Marianas College is a Land Grant Institution that is accredited by the Senior College and University Commission of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges. Founded in 1981, its focus continues to be ensuring student success and meeting the higher education and vocational training needs of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The institution has developed a comprehensive set of academic programs and services that address the social, cultural and economic development needs of its island communities.

Today, approximately 1,100 students are enrolled in credit programs that lead to an associate or bachelor's degree in the following areas: education, business, liberal arts, natural resource management, nursing, business administration, criminal justice, and hospitality management. The College also offers many non-credit, continuing education courses that are offered in various formats (online, hybrid, short-term, accelerated, etc.) throughout the year.

The President will report to the Board of Regents and will be expected to carry out the mission and vision of the College:

Mission: *Northern Marianas College, through its commitment to student learning, provides high quality, affordable and accessible educational programs and services for the individual and people of the Commonwealth.*

Vision: *Northern Marianas College will serve as the engine to drive the economic growth and the social and cultural vitality of the Commonwealth.*

Minimum Qualifications

- Earned doctorate degree from a U.S. accredited university or foreign equivalent;
- Seven (7) years of executive level management experience in an institution of higher education of which five (5) years are continuous, or a combination of at least seven (7) years of executive level management including post-secondary education teaching experience;
- Experience working in a multicultural environment, preferably in the Pacific region and in the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Substantiated experience in accreditation processes, personnel management, budget development and presentation, strategic planning and institutional assessment, fundraising, mediation, and team building; and
- Demonstrated knowledge of federal programs and grants application to higher education.

The salary for the position is $80,000 to $100,000 per annum plus benefits. Applicants with degrees from non-U.S. accredited institutions are responsible for providing an official evaluation of their degrees from an acceptable credential evaluation service to determine U.S. equivalency.

Applicants should include a curriculum vitae indicating their competences in Organizational Strategy, Resource Management, Communication, Collaboration, College Advocacy, and Professionalism; official transcripts; list of published journal work or scholarly research; three personal and three professional references (complete with name, title, address, phone/email contact); and four letters of professional recommendations specific to this position. Complete application packages and documents should be sent by certified priority mail and must be received by the closing date of April 15, 2016 for full consideration, to:

Ms. Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero
Chairperson, Presidential Search Committee
Northern Marianas College (Attention: Human Resources Office)
P.O. Box 501250, Saipan, MP 96950

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas College that equal opportunity be given to all qualified applicants without regard to age, race, gender, marital status, place of origin, religion, disability status, political affiliation, family relationship, or genetic information (GINA). The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The College reserves the option to extend the closing date. For more information about this position announcement and about the College, visit www.marianas.edu.

Junior Achievement program gets rolling

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior Achievement program students take part in a team-building activity during a workshop at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last Friday.

Students from four of the island's public high schools and a private school gathered last Friday for team building workshops to kick start this year's Junior Achievement program, a business competition of sorts for island students.

Friday's workshop at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center introduced the Junior Achievement program to students from four participating schools—Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Kagman High School.

Mount Carmel School is also participating this year; the first year the competition was opened up to private schools.

"Today's event was really focused on giving an overview and information on JA and how it is world-wide, and its reach, and its impact on students," said Carline Sablan, Commonwealth Development Authority economic development analyst and JA program coordinator.

CDA is looking at the end of March for JA's trade fair, where students will showcase their products.

During the workshop Friday, students competed to make the taller tower out of spaghetti noodles.

They were given 26 sticks of spaghetti, three feet of string, three feet of tape, a marshmallow, and 20 minutes to build a freestanding tower.

"The marshmallow had to be on top," said Sablan. "Kagman High [the winners] did a great job with the tower."

A second exercise had students make a product that targeted tourists, using string, colored stock paper, and masking tape.

Eliezha May Mendoza, from Saipan Southern High School, said her team made "The Marianas Plumeria Set," which included a necklace and a bracelet.

"We wanted to make a product target tourists because plumerias are our national flower," Mendoza said. "And plumerias are very attractive to the island-style and the island life of Saipan, so that's what we wanted to do."

They used the stock paper to make "flowers."

She expressed confidence in her team in the weeks ahead before the competition. "This is interesting, I've never done this."

The JA competitors will now be will be meeting for the next 12 weeks to come up with their products and business plans, to sell stocks, and capitalize their businesses, said Sablan.

The students will also market their product, sell them, and put together an annual report, and a video commercial.

If they are profitable the students will be issuing dividends to their shareholders.

"If you bought a share and it was profitable then you'd get dividends in the end," Sablan explained.

This year, the JA program is partnering with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Bank of Hawaii, Hyatt Regency Saipan, new to the program, and IT&E.

Company of the year, best commercial, best presentation, best annual report, and best at trade fair awards will be given out at the end of the competition, as well as awards for president of the year, vice president of finance, market, human resources, and public relations and production.

Junior Achievement is a worldwide non-profit organization that provides educational programs for youth to gain the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future and make smart academic and economic choices. Corporate and community volunteers deliver relevant, hands-on experiences that give students the knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship.

Junior Achievement is one of the largest non-profit organizations worldwide dedicated to inspiring youth to own their future and their economic success. Junior Achievement is a 121-member network across the world with reach to more than 10 million students and powered by more than 430,000 volunteers from all sectors of society.

Camacho wins Tanapag Middle School Geographic Bee

» Moves a step closer to $50K college scholarship

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tanapag Middle School 8th grade student Autumn Camacho topped her school-level National Geographic Bee last Feb. 5.

Autumn Camacho, an 8th grade student at Tanapag Middle School, won the school competition of the National Geographic Bee last Feb. 5 and a chance at a $50,000 college scholarship. The school Bee, at which students answered questions on geography, was the first round in the 28th annual National Geographic Bee.

Thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories are participating in the 2016 Bee. The school champions, including Camacho, will take a qualifying test; up to 100 of the top scorers on that test in each state will then be eligible to compete in their state Bee on April 1, 2016.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. for state winners to participate in the Bee national championship rounds May 22-25, 2016. The first place national champion will receive a $50,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the Society including a subscription to National Geographic magazine, and a National Geographic Expeditions trip to a national park in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

The national finals will air on television on the National Geographic Channel and PBS stations. Check local listing for date and times.

Everyone can test their geography knowledge with the exciting GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which poses 10 new questions a day, or by downloading the "National Geographic GeoBee Challenge: app, with more than 1,000 questions culled from past Bees, available on the App Store for iPhone, iPod touch and iPad; from the Android Market; or for NOOK Color.

National Geographic is a global nonprofit membership organization driven by a passionate belief in the power of science, exploration and storytelling to change the world. We fund hundreds of research and conservation projects around the globe each year. With the support of our members and donors, we work to inspire, illuminate and teach through scientific expeditions, award-winning journalism, education initiative and more. For more information, visit www.nationalgeographic.com and find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+, Youtube, LinkedIn and Pinterest. ***(PR)***

Host Guam announces its delegation to FestPac 2016

The 12th Festival of Pacific Arts Organizing Committee announced their selection of 500 members who now make up the official Guam Delegation to FestPac 2016.The announcement took place at the Chamorro Lunar Calendar Festival in Tumon with artists, performers and practitioners in attendance waiting to hear their name called.

As the host country, Guam is allowed up to 500 delegates. Of this 500 strong delegation, 414 are Council of Arts and Humanities Master Artisans and local residents as well as 86 members of the Diaspora who were announced recently in California. As of today, they have become one official Guam delegation that will represent twenty-four disciplines under the Traditional Arts, Literary Arts, Performing Arts and Visual Arts Categories. Additionally, all 500 delegates were bestowed the title of Honorary Ambassadors of the Hafa Adai Spirit, a part of Guam's Hafa Adai Pledge Program.

"Now that we've announced the Guam delegation, it's time for the artists and groups to work fine tune their presentation," said Monica Okada Guzman, Festival Programming Chairperson. "It's the largest delegation ever for Guam's participation in the festival, and we are very excited. Now we can get to work to prepare to represent Guam."

Twenty-seven nations throughout the Pacific will be holding the same selection process, and by festival time, the FestPac Coordinating Committee anticipates 2,500 to 3,000 delegates to participate in the festival.

About the Festival

Known as the "Olympics of Pacific Arts", this traveling festival is hosted every four years by a different country in the Pacific and will feature delegations from 27 participating island nations. FestPac was conceived by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to stop the erosion of traditional practices by sharing and exchanging culture. FestPac 2016 will take place on Guam from May 22 through June 4, 2016. The Pacific Community is the custodian of the Festival of Pacific Arts, which was initiated in by the Pacific Community at the first edition held in 1972. ***(PR)***

FESTPAC orientation meeting on Friday

The Northern Mariana Islands (Festival of Pacific Arts (FESTPAC) Organizing Committee will hold an orientation meeting for all registered delegates on Friday, Feb. 12, 6pm at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan. For more information contact Feofaaki McMahon at the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture at fe_mcmahon@yahoo.com or 670.322.9982/3. ***(PR)***

AS BUSINESSMAN HAS ALZHEIMER DISEASE

Daughter allegedly removes father from hospital, tries to control Saipan businesses

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A woman allegedly removed from a hospital in South Korea her father, a businessman who was diagnosed with Alzheimer disease, and kept him away from the rest of his family, then traveled to Saipan where she is now trying to control all of his businesses and property.

Koom Nye Kim, also known as Koom Nye Lee, wife of more than 40 years of businessman Byung Deuk Lee, and their son, Sang Hun Lee, filed on Friday a lawsuit in Superior Court for protection of the businessman and his interests on Saipan.

Kim asked the court to be appointed as guardian of her husband, Byung Deuk Lee.

Kim and her son, Sang Hun Lee, through counsel David G. Banes, are suing Ji Sook Lee for declaratory judgment, injunction, conversion, alienation of spouse's affection, abduction of spouse, and publicity placing person in false light.

Defendant Ji Sook Lee is the daughter of businessman Byung Deuk Lee, born out of wedlock, according to the complaint.

Saipan Tribune failed to contact defendant for comment and her name is not in the directory.

Kim and her son asked the court to declare Byung Deuk Lee incompetent. They requested the court to declare as void any purported agency agreement between Byung Deuk Lee and defendant Ji Sook Lee.

The plaintiffs asked the court to order defendant Ji Sook Lee to immediately provide full contact information for Byung Deuk Lee. They requested the court to prohibit the defendant from taking any actions to prevent Byung Deuk Lee from reuniting with them or seeking medical attention.

The plaintiffs asked the court to provide to plaintiff Sang Hun Lee all keys to the LC Property and prohibit defendant from entering the LC Property.

The LC Property refers to a 25-year lease on a piece of land in Garapan. Byung Deuk Lee also owns LC's Building Rental that collects rent from tenants and manages the LC Property.

Mrs. Kim is a director and shareholder of China Yanbian Foreign Economic & Technical Cooperation Corp. that is engaged in various businesses in the CNMI, and currently manages two restaurants located in the LC Property.

The plaintiffs asked the court to prohibit defendant from attempting to control the business operations of China Yanbian or LC Rental Company.

The plaintiffs asked the court to prohibit the defendant from accepting or intercepting any rent from LC Property tenants.

According to Banes, in 2008, Byung Deuk Lee and LC Rental Company entered into a business management agreement. Under the agreement, Byung Deuk Lee transferred the management, maintenance, and rent collection related to the LC Property to LC Rental Company.

Banes said the 2008 agreement acknowledged that due to health reasons, Byung Deuk Lee could no longer manage the rental business, that he wished to see his son eventually assume all business responsibilities related to the rental of the LC Property.

Banes said as part of the 2008 agreement, Byung Deuk Lee also assigned one-third of the interest in the LC Property lease to LC Rental Company.

Banes said since July 2008, plaintiff Sang Hun Lee, through LC Rental Company, managed the rental business, maintained the LC Property, and collected rents due from LC Property tenants.

However, Banes said, for the past two months, January and February 2016, defendant has intercepted all tenant rental payments.

Banes said in recent years, Byung Deuk Lee has experienced several health problems including a stroke in 2006 and depression and anxiety in 2013.

In 2015, Byung Deuk Lee's neurological health continued to decline and in May 2015 a physician listed his diagnoses as "Alzheimer's NOS or memory loss disability NOS" and noted his current state of cognitive impairment.

In 2015, Byung Deuk Lee physically attacked his wife, inappropriately touched a minor girl, and trapped the family dog in the toilet.

In September 2015, he was hospitalized by the police in South Korea after taking a knife to a nearby coffee shop where he yelled, made threats, and damaged property.

Banes said in November 2015, defendant, who had not been in contact with Byung Deuk Lee or the family for more than a decade, showed up in the hospital in South Korea and attempted to remove him.

Banes said the hospital staff refused to discharge Byung Deuk Lee, but the defendant secretly removed him from the hospital.

The plaintiffs don't know where Byung Deuk Lee has been living since November 2015.

Banes said Byung Deuk Lee arrived on Saipan on Feb. 3, 2016, but he has not been in contact with plaintiffs.

The lawyer alleged that in January 2016, the defendant began publicly presenting false information about her half brother, Sang Hun Lee, concerning his integrity and role in the businesses, and accusing her half brother of abusing his father, Byung Deuk Lee.

Woman pleads guilty to charge that she made false statements to USCIS

A woman indicted in federal court for allegedly making fraudulent statements to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, has entered a guilty plea.

At a change of plea hearing on Thursday afternoon, Jonie Esther B. Uddin pleaded guilty to the indictment charging her with one count of false statement.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted Uddin's guilty plea and set the sentencing for June 17, 2016 at 9am.

Manglona ordered Uddin not to leave Saipan without prior written court permission.

Manglona ordered all other prior terms of release conditions be lifted.

Attorney Mark Hanson is court-appointed counsel for Uddin. Assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing is counsel for the U.S. government.

According to the indictment, Uddin made the false, fictitious, and fraudulent statements and representations to USCIS on Nov. 18, 2011.

In a form I-130, Jonie Uddin allegedly represented that she lived in Chalan Piao with Tamiz Uddin, which she knew such representations were false in that she did not live in Chalan Piao and had never lived with Tamiz Uddin.

Form I-130 refers to a U.S. citizen's petition for an alien relative.

Additionally, in the form G-325 (biographic information), the defendant again allegedly represented that she lived in Chalan Piao.

A separate indictment was recently filed against Tamiz Uddin charging him with one count of false statement. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PDM collects 1,020 lbs of trash

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Saipan Awadori members sweep the road in front of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kinpachi Restaurant staff sweeps Coral Tree Avenue in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
PDM Promoters collected 1,020 lbs of garbage during their monthly cleanup last Saturday.

PDM Promoters Inc. collected 1,020 lbs of garbage during their monthly cleanup of the tourist hotspot of Paseo de Marianas last Saturday, Feb. 6.

Group coordinator Sonia Siwa said the Saturday cleanup was in preparation for the Chinese Lunar New Year celebration set yesterday.

Aside from collecting trash, PDM Promoters also did some bush cutting at Paseo de Marianas and Coral Tree Avenue.

Volunteers during the January cleanup included nine staff from Kinpachi Restaurant and 21 members of the Saipan Awaodori team.

PDM is a non-profit group that cleans up and beautifies the Garapan tourist district. ***(PR)***

Limited water service in Garapan

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in the village of Garapan will continue to experience limited water service due to low levels in the Puerto Rico reservoir.

The situation first came to light when CUC Water Operations personnel discovered the Puerto Rico tank was empty during routine monitoring Saturday morning. A subsequent investigation of the production and transmission system revealed three wells went offline during the night.

Repair personnel were able to get one of the wells online the same day; however, two wells in Sadog Tasi remain offline. As a result, customers in Garapan will receive limited water service for four hours per day based on the following schedule:

- Beach Road from Garapan to Gualo Rai: 6:30am-10:30am
- Chalan Pale Arnold from Garapan to Gualo Rai: 10:30am-2:30pm

For more information, please contact the 24-hour CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or visit www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation for the latest updates.

CUC is a non-profit autonomous agency of the CNMI government. The utility provides electric power, water and wastewater services to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

African Union leaders sidestep the big issues

The 26th African Union summit, which ended on Sunday in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, ducked as usual the questions of bloody conflict on the continent and focused instead on withdrawing from the International Criminal Court.

The AU had put forth the idea of sending a 5,000-member peacekeeping force to Burundi, in response to the risk of civil war and genocide. Last year a coup d'etat there failed, crooked elections occurred in June and President Pierre Nkurunziza sought an unconstitutional third term.

Nkurunziza said peacekeepers would be resisted as invaders, so at the summit the AU backed down, dispatching instead a delegation to Burundi for talks.

Another subject for summit consideration was a plan that AU members withdraw from the International Criminal Court because of the court's focus on crimes by African leaders. Its activities, according to Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, are "off course to the detriment of our sovereignty, security and dignity as Africans." In 2012 the ICC charged Kenyatta with crimes against humanity, then dropped them two years later.

Zimbabwe's 91-year-old president, Robert Mugabe, was succeeded as AU chair by Chadian President Idriss Deby Itno, who has been in power in the oil-rich nation since 1990. Mugabe, in his closing remarks, suggested that President Barack Obama was a puppet of whites.

The continent's other burning issues, in particular the out-of-control violence in Libya, Somalia and South Sudan, as well as the tragic, economically based migration from Africa to Europe, were scarcely addressed. For leaders who care about the continent, that will leave plenty to discuss at the African Union's July meeting in Rwanda.

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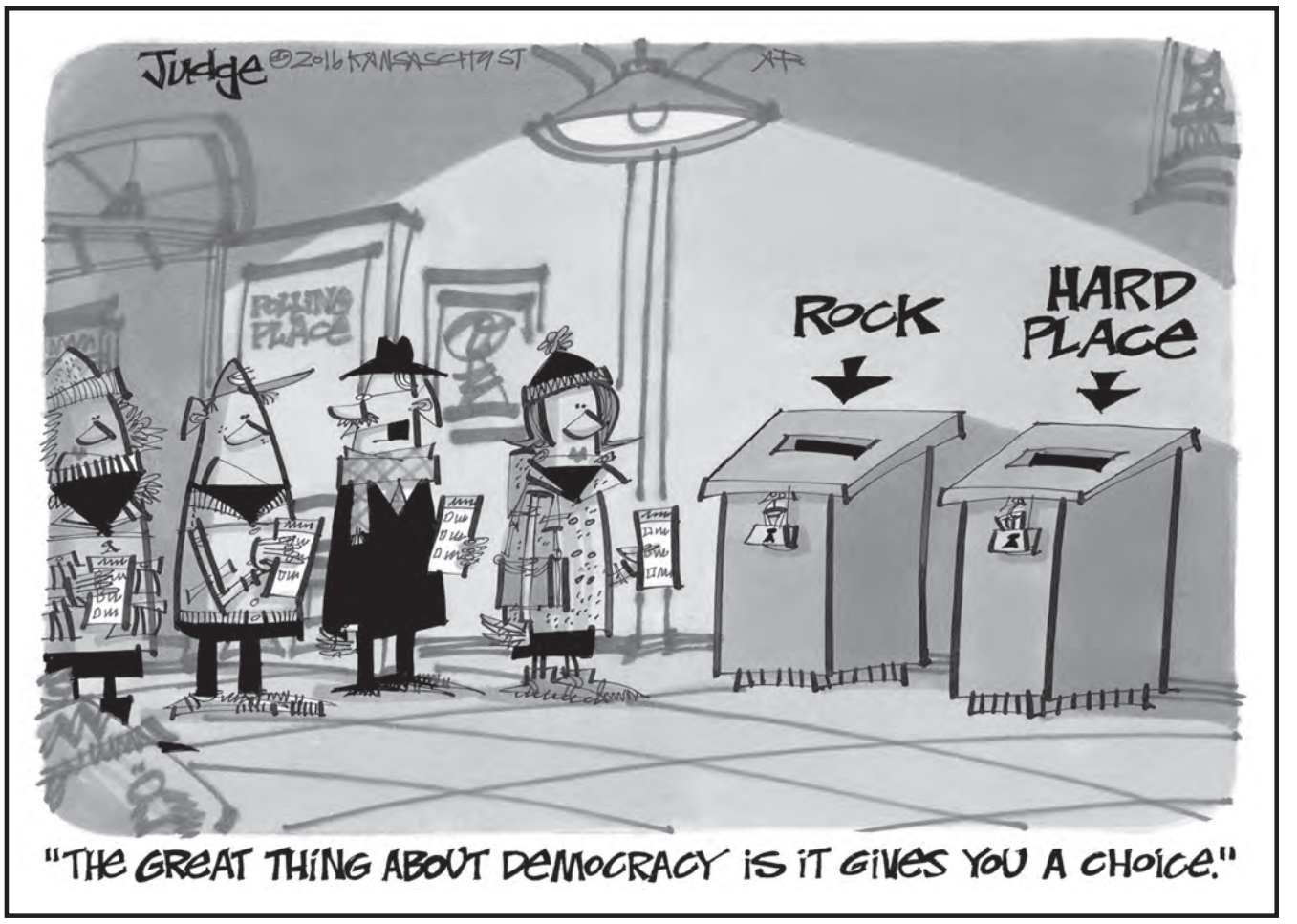

Touchdown Super Bowl

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

It is the apex of America's gladiatorial inheritance from Rome's Coliseum, one of the biggest events watched by Americans and a growing international audience. Lady Gaga sang the national anthem.

Super Bowl 50 began a week ago with the championship playoffs.

The Carolina Panthers (17-1) of the NFC had it easy with the Arizona Cardinals. The Panthers led early and never looked back, crushing the Cardinals 45-17. Panther QB Cam Newton can develop a winning habit. Panthers' D is formidable.

In the AFC, the Broncos (14-4) prevailed, but barely. Peyton Manning got the Broncos ahead on the first half. Tom Brady put on a show to catch up. It just was not enough. Brady held the short bag with the Patriots 18, Broncos 20.

Super Bowl was marketed to be archaically impressive as the number of the game was in Roman numerals, would have been SB L rather than SB 50.

Manning will be the oldest QB when SB 50 kicks off. He appeared on four SBs, won only one. A win this time will make him fade gloriously into the sunset.

Venue of SB 50 is at the Levi's Football Stadium in Santa Clara, CA, home to the SF 49ers (a costly promo for Levi Straus, the San Francisco jeans company). Early on, the 49ers and San Francisco tried to retain the team at Candlestick Park but negotiations fell apart; the 49ers' office and training facility is located in Santa Clara so they got an offer. SF's condition was that the 49ers retained their name.

Levi's Stadium is a very sophisticated football field in the League, garnering awards for a design that created a multipurpose venue focused on fans' experience and a top ecological green technology feature, to boot. The playing field green grass beats the plastic turfs of many gridirons; solar panels are installed on the roof and the thermal comfort control and the programmable lighting control systems are examples of the eco-friendly engineering and architectural design that went into the planning.

The professional football game that culminated in today's Super Bowl is distinctively American. Its international version is "soccer," which is really football. One kicked the ball from one end of the field to the other until it makes it through the netted upright. American football, other than when they kick the ball, is anything but football. It is mostly carrying the ball and roughing the other guy, or the QB throws the ball to a receiver who takes it to the end zone, and the audience roar their approval, sometime simulate a wave in their painted faces.

The menacing growl of the forest panther and the wild bucking of the feral horse was a marketing image used in today's contest. The Bronco is usually caught in the wild, now used in rodeos, domesticated but trained to buck its rider. The panther as jaguar is best left alone in the wild, like the puma, mountain lion, leopard, cougar, the jag is the favored mount of Dionysius in ancient mythology.

The Panthers were a 5-point favorite coming into the game but by the end of the 1st Q, the Broncos led 10-to-zilt. Momentum tilted toward the Panthers who scored on the 2nd Q but the Broncos added another upright kick as Broncos scored 13 to Panthers 7 to end the half.

The halftime hoopla had Beyoncé in Chris Martin's Coldplay band that featured Bruno Mars, too. One probably needs to have slow motion to appreciate the new technology that goes into the 30-minute production. What is on stage is not a personality but acts of precision and symmetry, though Beyoncé's leggy team did not displease. Technicians handled voice and light well, and the camera work had drones overhead, cameras all over the stadium. However, the CBS broadcast had an echo that doubled the vocals.

The Panthers started the 2nd half but its drive sputtered and its kick hit the upright so the Broncos took over. Peyton Manning dealt with the daunting Panther D, his drive sputtered as well. The three-point field goal was successful making the score 16-7. Cam took over and was heading to the end zone when a pass was too strongly thrown that it was intercepted. The Broncos' running back took it up from the team's end zone but the Panther D kept an uncrossable line. Cam kept scrambling but was sacked five times on the 3rd Q, ending 16-7 Broncos.

The 4th Q had Manning stripped of the ball and Cam went to work but could only earn a field goal, 16-10, still Broncos but only a touchdown away. But Cam was intercepted and the Broncos went Buckaroo. Manning added a score and a two-point conversion. The final score was Broncos 24, Panthers 10. The newcomer Newtown was out-Manned by age and experience.

In the CNMI, workers nursed their Bud clustered in front of communal TVs. At home, the lady of the house kept the pizza and Heineken coming for "hungry and thirsty men." Right, Ladies? Yo, where did you go?

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World is 'dangerously unprepared' for the next epidemic

By MARKOS KOUNALAKIS
THE SACRAMENTO BEE

Mobile apps are a fabulous waste of time and infinitely diverting. Except for "Plague."

The object of this strategy game is to achieve biological annihilation of the world with a complex virus or bacterial infection that runs roughshod over borders seeking warm and moist host bodies. People are infected and die regardless of their religion or nationality. "Plague" is an accelerated depiction of the race between a finding a cure for disease and Armageddon.

Slower-motion, real world infectious diseases are also mass-murdering terrors of the modern era — ones that usually get short shrift except when actual outbreaks occur.

Nearly a century ago, at the end of World War I, more people died of the Spanish Flu — somewhere between 20 million and 40 million — than had died in the "war to end all wars." That influenza epidemic remains the deadliest disease in recorded history. Yes, more than the 14th century's Black Death Bubonic Plague.

The newly resurrected Zika virus is not anywhere near as dangerous or deadly as the Spanish Flu. Zika is like the sniffles when compared to the Black Death. As with most diseases, not everyone gets infected but everyone is affected.

Biologically, the Zika virus is now "spreading explosively," according to the World Health Organization.

Fertile women and future pregnancies are considered at risk; there is a link between infected mothers and babies born with abnormally small heads and brains. In parts of Latin America and the Caribbean, the next generation is threatened and governments are recommending that pregnancies be postponed. Abortion policies are being reexamined.

The virus is spread by mosquitoes and, in a Texas case, sexually transmitted. Questions abound. In hot spots like Brazil, fear has arrived.

Brazil is one of 20 countries seriously hit by the virus. It is also a country suffering from a dramatic and ongoing economic downturn, political scandal and unpopular leadership. The last thing it needs is a public health crisis.

Economically reeling and politically wobbly Brazil looked toward the 2016 Summer Olympic Games for desperately needed extra tourism revenue and positive country branding. Instead, the Zika virus is actively disrupting travelers' plans to go to Rio this summer and giving Brazil a bad name. The Brazilian coffers will likely further suffer from an unexpected case of economic microcephaly — a case of shrinking capital.

State economies invariably suffer. In fact, the World Bank warned that the world is "dangerously unprepared" for the next epidemic. But it is not just individuals or nations' bottom lines that get hurt by the spread of disease, political and social disruption abounds.

In 2014, it was the threat of a wider Ebola pandemic that caused fear; the virulent disease spread by direct physical contact. A low-grade panic ensued via Internet hyperbole and media hyperventilation. Ebola also found fertile political bodies for its spread with some American lawmakers blaming the virus on President Barack Obama.

During his 2016 State of the Union address, Obama declared that "we stopped the spread of Ebola in West Africa" — no small feat. But even with this declaration, the virus proved to be a bit more resilient with a new Ebola death reported in Sierra Leone just a few days later. Viruses are not subject to political calendars, but often take advantage of political inaction.

By MARKOS KOUNALAKIS
The Sacramento Bee

Markos Kounalakis is a research fellow at Central European University and visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution.

Whether SARS, AIDS, Ebola or now the Zika virus, diseases are hard to combat; vaccines, antiviral and antibiotic drugs take time to test, produce and distribute. Governments need to coordinate to expend resources and political capital to combat disease.

The world has been relatively fast to react to many of the recent biological threats, but there are always new, more virulent strains waiting in the wings.

An interconnected world is a world that spreads disease quickly.

In the app "Plague," an epidemic is fought by grounding flights, population quarantine, and expensive drug development. If the disease spreads and mutates successfully, social chaos ensues, governments collapse, and everyone dies.

"Play again" is an option in "Plague." In the real world, such an event literally means "game over."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do we need a special election for governor?

Despite the AG's opinion on the legality and validity of acting governor Ralph DLG Torres' accession into the position of governor of the CNMI, there are so many people grumbling about what they perceive to be an attempt by our leaders to circumvent the rule of law as established by the CNMI Constitution.

In short, many refer to Article III, Executive Branch, of our Constitution and raise their concerns that Torres being sworn into office as governor should not have happened, that he instead should have remained in acting capacity pending the results of a special election to elect a new governor.

My take on the issue is without influence from what's currently floating about in the media on this very subject. It is an assertion of what I understand to be the true intent of the law. Many people are in agreement thus, the raised eyebrows and complaints.

Here goes:

"Section 7: Succession to the Governorship and Lieutenant Governorship. In case of the removal, death, or resignation of the governor, the lieutenant governor shall become governor and the president of the senate shall become lieutenant governor."

When Governor Inos passed away, the Lieutenant Governor became the Governor and the Senate President became the Lieutenant Governor. However, at the time of his passing, Governor Inos was off-island and Lieutenant Governor Torres was in acting capacity as Governor, "acting Governor" as predicated by following sections.

"If the offices of governor and lieutenant governor are both vacant, the president of the Senate shall become acting governor and the speaker of the House shall become acting lieutenant governor."

Irrelevant as this statement hinges on the condition that BOTH offices are vacant at the same time.

"An acting governor or lieutenant governor who assumes office when more than one year remains in the term may serve only until a governor or lieutenant governor is chosen in a special election provided by law."

This presents the first of two relevant arguments. Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres was in fact the "acting governor" and our Constitution explicitly states that he MAY SERVE ONLY UNTIL A GOVERNOR IS ELECTED.

"Section 8: Absence or Disability of the Governor. When the governor is physically absent from the Commonwealth, the lieutenant governor shall be acting governor. If the lieutenant governor is also absent or is otherwise unavailable, the presiding officer of the senate shall be acting governor."

This sentence established the condition that raised the issue for many and a dilemma for Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog in the positions they occupy now.

In Gov. Eloy S. Inos' absence, Torres became the "acting governor," again, the problem is that he should have remained in such capacity until the people have spoken in a special election.

So, should there be a special election? I believe this is required by law. To quell the persistent complaints within our communities, our Legislature can submit a certified question to the Supreme Court so we can get the official interpretation of this article of our Constitution. This is an issue that requires the voice of our Supreme Court. Whatever the court decides should be followed. If it rules that Torres is indeed the governor, so be it. If it rules that there is a need for a special election, again, we have to follow.

Whatever the decision may be, the net result will be that it shall validate the true intent and the application of the law as well as the person who will sit in the Governor's Office. It will also silence the critics and put an end to all the questions and arguments. Many believe and rightfully so that it is not the AG's opinion and advise that should be followed.

Additionally, should there be more doubts on this subject, our Legislature should introduce a bill to clarify succession of power, i.e., Gubernatorial Succession Law (assuming we don't already have this type of law) to define what needs to happen should we ever have to face another issue like this.

With all due respect to all parties involved, we have to follow the rule of law and do our absolute best to avoid setting a precedent based on an erroneous interpretation of our founding document, the CNMI Constitution.

In the event that we don't already have a gubernatorial succession law, we should look elsewhere for traditions or persuasive points of reference to use as our guide. I look at the U.S. Constitution as a major point of reference, especially the sections on the power of congress as well as that of the president. I look with special care at Amendment XX, XXII, and most especially, Amendment XV. I understand that the U.S. Constitution, in its entirety, is not applicable to us in the territory, but I'm sure it could be used as a persuasive point of reference. We live in a democracy. Our government is of the people, by the people and for the people. It is time we listen to the people. We should call for a special gubernatorial election. When governor Torres took the governor's oath of office, he was taking it as "acting governor," and not as a bona fide governor. Vic Hocog should resign from the Senate, and wait for an appointment to the Office of Lieutenant Governor as "acting Lt. Lieutenant Governor." He should have resigned from the Senate, since one citizen cannot hold two positions concurrently—one the Legislature and at the same time the Executive Branch. That's a Nn-no constitution-wise. Let's not evade the law.

Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan

Ascension question

When former senator Ramon "Kumoi" Guerrero introduce his Senate bill and became CNMI Public Law 12-18, his intention was to fix all the "flaws" within our "election laws" to eliminate challenges due to the election results. On page 46, as stated on s/s 6502 of our CNMI Constitution, PL12-18 is clear of its intent, that if the governor resigns, dies, or unable to perform his duties as head of state, then the "Acting Governor" must call for a special election within 30 days. With all due respect to the elected Attorney General's opinion, as he based his findings on other states laws, in my opinion, the AG failed to follow our own CNMI Constitution as amended and signed into law on Sept. 14, 2000 by then governor Pedro P. Tenorio. As in any "laws" in question only the CNMI Supreme Court must interpret the laws and will then issue their findings base on our CNMI Constitution.

According to former senator Ramon "Kumoi" Guerrero, The opinions of Mr. Frank Agulto on his letter to the editor written last week is right on the dot! For the record, as a former House member for the CNMI 17th Legislature, I too, agree with the findings of former senator Ramon "Kumoi" Guerrero as stated on CNMI Public Law 12-18 and not on a personal basis but on issues that affects our Commonwealth. Let's stand together for what is right! *Biba* to all who call the CNMI their home, and *biba* for a better Commonwealth.

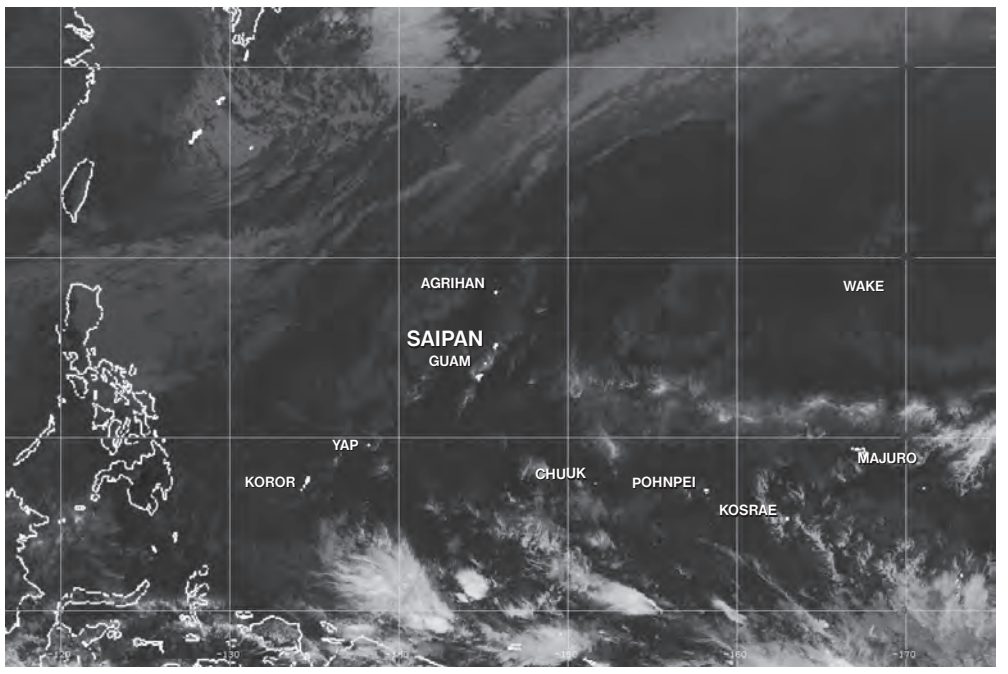
Joseph M. Palacios
Former House member, 17th CNMI Legislature

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N149E to 21N142E then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 14N. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found near Iwo To island and Minami Tori Shima along and up to 250 miles northwest of the front and along and up to 100 miles northwest of the shear line. A shear line runs west-northwestward from 14N180 to west of Wake Island near 18N158E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are present along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of Koror south of a line from 3N137E to 3N143E south of Chuuk between the equator and 7N from 148E to 153E and south of Kwajalein and Majuro within 200 miles of a line from 6N167E to EQ175E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼79

Around the Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲77	▼66
Beijing	Sunny	▲48	▼23
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲64	▼59
Honolulu	Sunny	▲77	▼65
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲45	▼36
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲85	▼55
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼73
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼59
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼57
New York	Snow	▲37	▼29
Osaka	Showers	▲49	▼37
Paris	Rain	▲52	▼38
Pusan	Sunny	▲50	▼30
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼56
Salem	Sunny	▲65	▼39
San Francisco	Sunny	▲71	▼52
Seoul	Sunny	▲43	▼21
Tokyo	Windy	▲59	▼36
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲46	▼35

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet
8:50 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:35 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:50 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:44 AM	6:18 PM
Wednesday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM
Thursday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM
Friday	6:43 AM	6:19 PM
Saturday	6:43 AM	6:20 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:55 AM	6:57 PM
Wednesday	7:45 AM	7:56 PM
Thursday	8:34 AM	8:56 PM
Friday	9:22 AM	9:54 PM
Saturday	10:10 AM	10:53 PM

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 24, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

MU7162	5:10am	08:00am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

MU7161	10:00 pm	5:30am	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

'Prevention is foundation of behavioral health pyramid'

Behavioral health is the combination of substance abuse and mental health services weaved into the prevention, treatment, and recovery of individuals and families grounded in wellness. The Community Guidance Center's vision and mission emphasize the collaborative need for prevention, treatment, and recovery services in the many areas of behavioral health to mobilize around effective planning and quality of care delivered to its villages, families, and islands. As an integral component of this continuum of care, prevention serves as the foundation of the behavioral health pyramid. Prevention is invested in addressing issues before they occur and building protective factors collaboratively with families and villages to avoid the many social and behavioral issues that may arise with substance use and untreated mental health problems. A key component toward maintaining a balance in prevention is utilizing the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Eight Dimensions of Wellness which include the emotional, environmental, intellectual, physical, occupational, spiritual, social, and financial aspects of an individual's lifestyle.

Another integral component in effective prevention services is the coordinated effort between the Community Guidance Center and the communities it serves. In order to achieve the best outcomes for its people, villages and islands, prevention must ensure that the many existing community and cultural resources that exist in the community are sustained. This is why the Prevention Services Unit works tirelessly to reach out to its communities in many capacity building areas such as the trainings listed below.

SafeTALK

It's a half-day alertness training that prepares anyone over the age of 15, regardless of prior experience or training, to become a suicide-alert helper. Most people with thoughts of suicide don't truly want to die, but are struggling with the pain in their lives. Through their words and actions, they invite help to stay alive. SafeTALK-trained helpers can recognize these invitations and take action by connecting them with life-saving intervention resources, such as caregivers trained in ASIST.

ASIST

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is for everyone 16 or older—regardless of prior experience—who wants to be able to provide suicide first aid. Shown by major studies to significantly reduce suicidality, the ASIST model teaches effective intervention skills while helping to build suicide prevention networks in the community. During the two-day interactive session, participants learn to intervene and help prevent the immediate risk of suicide. Over 1,000,000 people have taken the workshop, and studies have proven that the ASIST method helps reduce suicidal feelings for those at risk.

(Pacific Jurisdiction) Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST)

SAPST provides an introduction to the fundamentals of substance abuse prevention based on the current knowledge and practice in the field. The training was developed for individuals new to substance abuse prevention or early in their prevention career. In addition to the four days of trainings, participants will also be sent a link and need to complete an on-line course prior to the training.

This training is appropriate for:

- Prevention Professionals
- Treatment Professionals
- Coalition Members
- Social Service Professionals
- Public Health Professionals
- Anyone interested in prevention

Challenge Masters

An interaction of adult/youth, staff, community of family activities that fosters and promoted teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, trust and conflict resolution centered around substance abuse prevention.

Social Marketing Information

Flyers, brochures, and fact sheets containing information on substance abuse related topics.

General Substance Abuse Prevention Presentations

Presentation on facts about the different types of substances and their consequences. The presentation also includes data based on Public School System Youth Risk Behavioral Survey. Presentations will be tailored based on audience's age range.

Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse

Promotion and awareness of the dangers of Prescription Drug misuse and abuse. Also available are Fact Sheets and Q&A Flyers. ***(PR)***

BEACH CLEANUP CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rainy weather did not stop Northern Marianas Dive Operators Association and the Marianas Visitors Authority to join forces and conduct their quarterly cleanup at Laulau Beach on Jan. 15, 2016. NMDOA and the MVA jointly adopted the popular dive spot several years ago and regularly cut the grass, clear overgrowth, and pick up debris.

NAVFAC Marianas addresses audit report recommendations

PITI, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas announced it addressed all recommendations in the Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Inspector General (OIG) Audit Report of July 2, 2015, and completed all but one of the necessary corrective actions as of Jan. 4, 2016.

Corrective actions for the construction of the helipad are in progress with a completion date of later this summer. This project is located on Polaris Point at Naval Base Guam and was part of the construction of the Commander Submarine Squadron 15 (CSS-15) headquarters facility and the Consolidated Submarine Learning Center. These two buildings were turned over to the Navy for occupancy in September 2012.

To correct shortfalls, NAVFAC Marianas reevaluated the requirements for the helipad and developed a project package that met the applicable Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC). An updated helipad design addresses all noted deficiencies. Materials are on order and construction is anticipated to be complete later this summer.

By way of background, in June 2015 NAVFAC Marianas received a draft audit report from the DoD OIG. The command reviewed the draft report and concurred with the findings and recommendations contained therein and immediately began pursuing corrective actions. The final report was received and published July 2, 2015.

"In addition to bringing the facilities up to the required standards, NAVFAC Marianas reviewed planning, design and acquisition processes and conducted necessary professional training for the staff," said NAVFAC Marianas Commanding Officer Capt. Stephanie Jones. "We are committed to working closely with the DoD OIG and regulatory agencies to continue to provide the highest quality products and services to our supported commanders," Jones added. ***(PR)***

Kagman High School 2Q honor roll

12th Grade Principal's List
- Bautista, Lilly Jean
- Babauta, Cassey
- Camacho, Asako
- Camacho, Jessa Mae
- Laoyan, Karen
- Litulumar, Alexander
- Santos, Peter Anthony

12th Grade "A" Honor Roll
- Allison Arellano
- Basa, Elizabeth
- Cabrera, Josepha
- Camacho, Wildon
- Dela Cruz, Ernest Jr.
- Islam, Fatimah
- Keremen, Angela
- Leito, Ana
- Magofna, Tonnya Lynn
- Mongami, Agnes
- Ramon, Coreen
- Salas, Polyn
- San Nicolas, Mikeala
- Tenorio, Viron Joel

12th Grade "B" Honor Roll
- Abraham, Venessa
- Aldan, Rayanna
- Babuta, Evangeline
- Benito, Michelle
- Borja, Jerry
- Borja, Sage
- Buekis, Florens
- Butters, Kris
- Camacho, Cary
- Castro, Victor
- Chong, Joaquin
- George, Nimei
- Indalecio, Dionne
- Kapileo, Sarah Lynn
- Malwelbug, David
- Mendiola, Edel
- Muna, Christy Ann
- Muna, Michael
- Ngirausui, Natasha
- Pua, Jesus Marino
- Santos, Aaron
- Santos, Guadalupe
- Seman, Sinadel
- Shoking, Josnen
- Sojib, Foysal
- Tenorio, Roke

11th Grade Principal's List
- Babauta, Tiara
- Borja, Kloe
- Butters, Kycel
- Camacho, Andrea
- Camacho, Benellen
- Hamilton, Brittney
- Lacay, Jocielyn
- Lacson, Philippe
- Nauta, Rianna
- Ngalongalo, Alfredo Jr.
- Talon, Iramhel

11th Grade "A" Honor Roll
- Angui, Noreen
- Babauta, David John
- Camacho, Audrey Rose
- Castro, Deena
- Coronado, Erika
- San Nicolas, Alexa
- San Nicolas, Cory

11th Grade "B" Honor Roll
- Ada, Wilson
- Agulto, Jesse James
- Aguon, Augustin Jr.
- Aguon, Avery
- Arriola, Neling
- Babauta, Alyssa
- Bandoja, Michael
- Besnio, Abundio Jr.
- Blas, Jasmine
- Calantog, Steffany
- Camacho, Peter Jr.
- Cangco, Jenam
- Castro, Cindy
- Cepeda, Reina Lynn
- Faisao, Quirin
- Iriarte Grace
- Leon Guerrero, Vincent
- Magofna, Christopher
- Magofna, Talianna
- Malwelbug, Donn
- Maniego, Jonathan
- Masayos, Nikela
- Mendiola, Chelsey
- Muna, Angela
- Norita, Ramon
- Okawa, Jonas
- Pangelinan, Donald Jr.
- Peter, Kiara Jean
- Quitugua, Juan Jr.
- Rebamba, Machael
- Sablan, Lilly
- Seman, Mildred
- Tudela, Tara
- Xavier, Kay Dee

10th Grade Principal's List
- Cabrera, Mannelyn
- Camacho, Alejandra
- Cepeda, Alyssa
- De Leon Guerrero, Austin
- Faisao, Kayleen
- Isip, Chelsea
- Loong, Julie Anne
- Maglanque, Aldionne
- Ogumoro, Aaron
- Quitano, Kyle
- Rabauliman, Enrique
- Rago, Francine
- Santos, Frances
- Santos, Patrick Jerome
- Semens, Bella
- Shrestha, Charmel
- Smith, Nathaley
- Vladisimo, Dionessis

10th Grade "A" Honor Roll
- Arceo, Christian
- Cruz, Maureen
- Hossuin, Tamika
- Iguel, Marikishalin
- Jetley, Junita
- Litulumar, Immaculada
- Membrere, Andrei
- Mendiola, Delores
- Quitugua, Jelbert
- Vladisimo, Edson

10th Grade "B" Honor Roll
- Agulto, Jeremy
- Boadi, Kayjon
- Cabrera, Gedin
- Camacho, Benny
- Camacho, Kyle
- Camacho, Shelby
- Consignado, Jeffrey
- Cruz, Joey Jr.
- Deleon Guerrero, Latish
- Fabia, Kyle
- Igitol, Boz
- Iskawa, Gregolyn
- Kani, Antonia
- Kapileo, Christine Joy
- Kapileo, Kurt
- Kelulau, Ngirabeketei
- Kileleman, Adrian
- Lizama, Agnes
- Lizama, Oscar
- Lizama, Trinie
- Naputi, Jose
- Ngotel, Connilene
- Palacios, Dustin
- Pangelinan, John Darrow
- Skilang, Lilibeth
- Taitano, Alfred
- Takai, Jovi
- Torres, Fermin
- Torres, Vincent Jr.
- Trecho, Jovita

9th Grade Principal's List
- Camacho, De Faustina
- Gonzales, Genza Matua
- Manglona, Trinae
- Masayos, Darian
- Takai, Britney

9th Grade "A" Honor Roll
- Ada, Romel Jay
- Bandoja, Mikah
- Borja, Marc
- Cabrera, Jose
- Castro, Chelsea
- Danford II, Bobby Jean
- Estal, Mariecris
- Eusebio, Ella Mae
- Fitial, Rayanna
- Hazlip, Cameron
- Henderson, Rosalie
- Kaipat, Keoni
- Kirby, Justine
- Lizama, Antonia
- Muna, Camille
- Nicholas, Wilson Jr.
- Palmes, Kristine
- Reyes, Roman Edward Jr
- San Nicolas, Kyle Peter

9th Grade "B" Honor Roll
- Aguon, Kazuki
- Aldan, Aundrea
- Anon, Mary Grace
- Arriola, Jacklyn
- Agustino, Presley
- Blas, Takeji
- Bondoc, Pauline
- Borja, Franicia
- Borja, Manuel John
- Cabrera, Zyra
- Camacho, Manuel Jr.
- Camacho, Breanna
- Camacho, Mary-Jo
- Cepeda, Alvonny
- Charfauros, Mikeangela
- Dawe, Jesse
- Dela Cruz, Sherijean
- Estella, Andy
- Fitial, Marlisa
- Guerrero, Freddie Jr.
- Guerrero, Leneah
- Islam, Khalid
- Kaainoa, Kekuni
- Kaipat, Dante
- Lamorena, Clarence
- Leon Guerrero, Tindin
- Lizama, Kimo
- Magofna, Rickie Ann
- Ocampo, Jolyn
- Pangelinan, Jonisha
- Quitano, Juan
- Rabauliman, Joseph
- Rasa, Tiara
- Reyes, Anthony Jr.
- Reyes, Edward Jr.
- Romolor, Alanna
- Sablan, Taylor Jean
- Sebaklim, Laurina
- Taitano, Kyle
- Taitingfong, Goddhy
- Torres, Vincent II
- Trecho, Jessica
- Tudela, Lance
- Valdez, Alyssa
- Welson, Marcilyn ***(PR)***

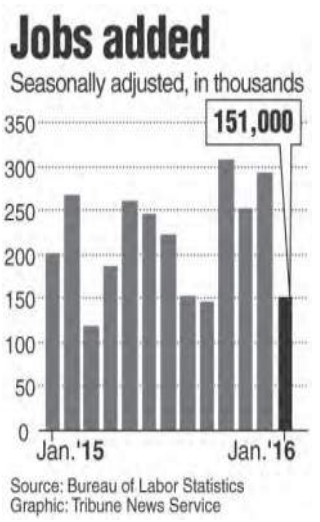
Business

Hopeful sign for US economy: Job hunting ticks up

WASHINGTON (AP)—For most of an agonizingly slow recovery from the Great Recession, millions of out-of-work Americans huddled on the sidelines of the job market. Yet Friday's jobs report added to evidence of a long-awaited shift:

Some have grown confident enough to start looking for work.

The percentage of Americans working or looking for a job, though still historically low, rose for the third time in four months. It's now at its highest level since May.



Americans in their prime working years—ages 25 through 54—are driving the improvement and offsetting powerful demographic forces pushing in the other direction. In particular, the vast baby boom generation is retiring, which is reducing the proportion of adults with jobs or looking for one.

This has created a "tug of war," says Joshua Shapiro, chief U.S. economist at forecasting firm MFR, Inc., between rising retirements and the employment opportunities created by an improved economy.

"The fact that we've stabilized now after a long decline suggests people are finally getting enticed back into the labor force," Shapiro said. The workforce includes both people who are employed and those looking for jobs.

AP
President Barack Obama speaks about the economy, Friday, Feb. 5, 2016, during a news conference in the Brady Press Briefing Room of the White House in Washington.

Earlier in the recovery, increasing retirements and sluggish hiring were pushing in the same direction. The result: A sharp drop in the proportion of adults in the workforce. The unemployment rate fell. But the reason was nothing to cheer: With fewer people seeking jobs, fewer people were counted as unemployed.

Now, the trend is more promising. More people are looking for work. And the decline in the unemployment rate in the past two years—from 6.6 percent in January 2014 to 4.9 percent last month—has occurred mostly because people are finding jobs.

The overall improvement remains modest. The percentage of Americans working or looking for work ticked up to 62.7 percent in January, up from 62.4 percent in September, which was near a 40-year low.

Figures for those ages 25 through 54 are more hopeful: The proportion working or looking for work has reached 81.1 percent, the highest point in a year. And the percentage in that age bracket with jobs has reached its highest level since 2008.

In addition, Americans appear to have a modestly rosier view of the job market. Their perception of the availability of jobs has recovered to nearly its pre-recession level, according to the Conference Board's consumer confidence survey.

Felix Mirando, CEO of ARCPoint Labs, a chain of testing laboratories that focuses on drug and alcohol screening, has seen more resumes from people who have been out of the workforce rather than already employed.

Though many employers are reluctant to hire people with long gaps in their resumes, Mirando says he is opens to them.

Massachusetts plan could spur hydro imports to New England

BOSTON (AP)—Tapping into Canadian hydropower is hardly a new concept in energy-starved New England. But Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker's proposal to authorize long-term contracts between utilities and hydropower producers is being viewed in some quarters as a potential game-changer for the region.

The move is not without doubters, and the question of how to deliver Canadian hydro on a large scale remains unanswered. Among several plans yet to secure final approval are the $1.4 billion Northern Pass project, designed to bring 1,090 megawatts of Hydro-Quebec power through New Hampshire into southern New England and a 1,000-megawatt transmission line beneath Lake Champlain in Vermont. A single megawatt can power up to 1,000 homes.

Without a hydropower infusion, Baker contends his state won't meet its 2020 target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent from 1990 levels. Beyond that goal, the governor and other regional leaders point to a practical need to replace electricity generation that has or will soon disappear from the energy landscape.

Several oil and coal-fired plants, mostly in Massachusetts, have been mothballed in recent years. Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth will close by 2019; another nuclear facility, Vermont Yankee, was shuttered in 2014.

In all, plants generating 4,200 megawatts of power have closed or will be retiring soon, and ISO-New England, the regional grid operator, has identified an additional 6,000 megawatts at risk of retirement by 2020—adding up to 25 percent of the region's available resources.

Massachusetts, the region's most populous state, has the biggest energy appetite and typically accounts for roughly half the typical weekday demand.

If the lost power isn't replaced, Baker warns, the state and region will fall prey to an uncertain global energy market and be forced to rely more on carbon-producing fossil fuels.

Driven by power outages and savings, towns look to microgrid

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—An upstate New York town that repeatedly found itself without power for days during a string of storms is planning a dramatic step by pulling its municipal buildings entirely off the electric grid.

The decision by Nassau to rely on solar, wind, landfill gas and battery storage by 2020 puts the town of 5,000 near Albany on the leading edge of a national campaign to develop "microgrids" designed to make communities more energy independent and the grid more resilient.

While only a few communities have become early adopters and natural disasters have been a driving force, proponents say there is also growing interest nationwide from places looking to save money by selling excess power to utilities and to help the environment.

Tipping points for Nassau came during ice storms that knocked out power in 2008 and 2009, when front-end loaders had to be used to open the heavy highway department doors so sand trucks could get on the road because a small generator couldn't handle the lift, town Supervisor David Fleming said.

"The town found itself in a vulnerable position when the aging infrastructure would fail," Fleming said, adding that the planned renewable energy switch would cover the town hall, the highway garage, and police and fire departments. A committee has been formed to refine the plan and figure out its costs.

"Campus microgrids" are familiar at places like hospitals and industrial plants, but development of the more sprawling "community microgrids" has been slowed by technical and regulatory hurdles. There's also been a mixed response from utility companies, ranging from resistance to a threat to their franchise to embracing microgrids as a business opportunity.

How to stop your boss's annoying jokes

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

Q: My boss keeps cracking jokes that make me sound like a terrorist. A couple of years ago, a friend and I got into trouble for setting off fireworks inappropriately. I had to go to court and pay a fine, and the whole thing was very embarrassing.

When my current manager learned about this incident, he began to make wisecracks about my being a bomber. Any time a terrorist event is on the news, he asks me where I was that day. To make it worse, he often does this in front of other people.

This is a family business, and all the managers are related, so complaining about him would only make things worse. Do you have any suggestions?

A: Since your boss is obviously an idiot, the only remaining question is whether he's malicious or simply clueless. If these inane comments are delivered as good-natured ribbing, they may just be an example of the teasing insults which seem to be an inherent part of "guy culture." In that case, you could explain your concerns and request a cease-fire.

For example: "Bob, I know you're kidding when you joke about my being some sort of bomber, but I'm concerned that people might actually believe I have violent tendencies. That's definitely not the impression I want to create, so I would appreciate it if we could end the bomb jokes. Is that OK with you?"

On the other hand, if his goal is to upset you, you should meet his lame remarks with a practiced neutral response. Upon hearing the word "bomb," for example, you might roll your eyes and calmly state "It was fireworks, Bob," then drop the subject. Once his "jokes" fail to produce a reaction, provoking you will no longer be any fun.

Q: At lunchtime, I often go to a nearby gym for a quick workout. Since my lunch break is only half an hour, I don't have time to shower, so I wash up when I get back to the office. This usually takes about 15 minutes.

Yesterday, I left for the gym at 1 p.m., returned at 1:30 p.m. and went to the bathroom to wash up. After a few minutes, my boss began banging on the door, loudly stating that this was my last warning about long lunches. In her opinion, I should be back at my desk after 30 minutes. Can she really keep me from using the restroom?

A: Pounding on the bathroom door was a childish move, so your boss has some growing up to do. However, the game you're playing with your lunch break seems equally juvenile. Since you obviously understand your manager's expectations, this ongoing tardiness seems intentionally provocative.

While some bosses are flexible about schedules, others expect them to be followed closely. Your manager's claim that a half-hour lunch should last precisely 30 minutes may be strict, but it's not inappropriate. So instead of continuing to antagonize your boss, select luncheon activities which fit into the allotted time frame.

Nation

Heroin scourge changes role of police in hard-hit areas

CINCINNATI (AP)—Forehead furrowed, a woman drags on a Camel cigarette, admitting she has only vague memories of nearly dying five days earlier.

Some flashes of images of being inside an ambulance. Waking up in a hospital bed. No recognition, though, of the solidly built, 6-foot-4 blue-uniformed police officer now leaning against a wall in her kitchen, having returned not to arrest her, but to help with her battle against heroin.

The officer, David Hubbard, a veteran narcotics detective, is part of the "Quick Response Team" formed last July in Colerain Township, a sprawling suburb of some 60,000 people 15 miles northwest of Cincinnati. Police, paramedics and addiction counselors combine to quickly steer users into treatment while their overdoses are still raw and frightening.

It's among new approaches, some that are redefining police roles, being tried in hard-hit communities across the country. While some critics ask whether police are putting social work over law enforcement, authorities say that while they are stepping up efforts against dealers, they can't arrest their way out of such a pervasive epidemic.

"There were some naysayers who say these are nothing but junkies—lock them up," said John Tharp, sheriff in Lucas County, home to Toledo, Ohio's fourth-largest city. "We may think this is soft (for police), but when you have a crisis in your community, you need to be proactive. We're being aggressive."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports heroin overdose death rates more than tripled since 2010 as powerful, cheap forms swept America. Ohio ranked among the top five states in drug overdose deaths in 2014, including 1,177 linked to heroin, and had one of the biggest increases.

AP

In this Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2016, photo, Colerain Township Police Det. Dave Hubbard, left, and Nan Franks, CEO of Greater Cincinnati Addiction Services Council, center, meet with a heroin user, who requested to remain anonymous, five days after she nearly died from a heroin overdose in Colerain Township in Hamilton, Ohio.

In Massachusetts, Gloucester's police chief famously pioneered a program last year to help get addicts into treatment if they turn in their drugs and drug equipment, no questions asked. Departments in other states have adopted aspects of the program.

Tharp's Drug Abuse Response Team (D.A.R.T.) was formed in June 2014 amid rising overdose deaths in the Toledo area. Police, accompanied by counselors, meet with users and families as soon as possible after overdoses, even providing rides to treatment. Hundreds have entered treatment through the effort.

In Colerain Township, Public Safety Director Dan Meloy said the program launched last July appears to be having an impact already. On pace to top 200 overdoses when it started, the township ended 2015 with 167.

The programs help reduce other crimes, police say.

"They're not breaking into their neighbors' sheds, they're not robbing the local stores, they're not stealing from their families trying to feed their habit," Meloy said.

Ohio officials are battling heroin on other fronts, too.

Gov. John Kasich's office last month announced the latest in a series of guidelines aimed at reducing prescription painkiller abuse often linked to leading to heroin use, this time promoting alternative pain relief methods. Attorney General Mike DeWine convened a statewide summit and spotlighted "holistic approaches" being tried. U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, has been building bipartisan support in Washington for a bill that focuses on making sure patients get optimal treatment.

ACROSS THE NATION

Human remains found in ocean search for plane wreckage

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Divers searching in the water off Southern California found human remains and debris on Sunday from the wreckage of a midair collision involving two small planes. They made the discovery about 2 miles off the Port of Los Angeles on the third day of the search, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Juanita Navarro said. Investigators from the coroner's office will try to identify the remains and divers plan to continue looking for more evidence at daybreak Monday, she said. A massive search was launched Friday after a plane piloted by a 72-year-old woman was seen on radar colliding with a craft carrying men ages 61 and 81 off San Pedro, just outside Los Angeles Harbor.

Authorities have not released any identities, but the woman's husband identified her as Mary Falstrom.

NYC man killed by falling crane eulogized as generous, kind

NEW YORK (AP)—A pedestrian killed by a collapsing crane was eulogized Sunday as a man of kindness and generosity as the final remnants of the crumpled steel were removed from the Manhattan street where they fell. David Wichs, 38, has been described by relatives as a mathematical whiz who graduated from Harvard University and worked at a computerized-trading firm. His good deeds also made him "an angel," said Haskel Lookstein, rabbi emeritus of the Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, where the funeral was held. "We honor a very unique man whose life was a life of giving: giving from his possessions to causes he believed in passionately," Lookstein said. The recipients included the Yeshiva of Flatbush, which had welcomed Wichs as a 14-year-old from Prague who barely spoke English and knew no Hebrew. "He never forgot it, and he gave back generously," the rabbi said.

At least 2 killed, 1 injured in fight at complex; bats used

MARIN CITY, Calif. (AP)—Authorities say two people were killed and one critically injured after an armed fight broke out among a group of people at a large apartment complex in Marin City, north of San Francisco. Marin County Sheriff's Office spokesman Lt. Doug Pittman originally said at least three people had been killed Sunday morning in a melee involving people with bats and sticks. Pittman tells the San Francisco Chronicle it's unclear what started the fight, but he confirmed two victims were found near the entrance of an apartment. The third man was found nearby and taken to a local hospital with at least one gunshot wound and possible other injuries. He says neighbors called police after hearing the fight around 10 a.m., and then several more calls came in reporting gunshots. Initial reports said sticks and bats were involved in the altercation.

Study explores how black men find success in college

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—James Wanda, a senior at Pennsylvania's Lafayette College and one of two black computer science majors in his class, says at times he has felt pressure to succeed not just for himself, but for his entire race.

"I realized if I fail, in some ways, it means that people might take that as either confirmation that other black students will fail, or as a sign that they might fail," said the 21-year-old from Arlington, Virginia.

For black students—especially men—at many mainstream colleges, these pressures, racial slights and other negative interactions can push them to transfer or even drop out. A new study in the Harvard Educational Review is highlighting how some black male college students are overcoming those challenges, and the reasons for their success.

Shaun Harper, a professor and executive director of the Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education at the University of Pennsylvania, surveyed more than 140 students at 30 predominantly white public and private colleges.

Among his findings: While high-achieving black male students aren't immune from racial stereotypes, they have found a way to push back against them—often through taking on confidence-building campus leadership roles that can change perceptions of them among their white peers and faculty.

"White students get to be students and learn; students of color have to deal with racial stress," Harper said in an interview. "As they become more skillful at not internalizing low expectation, it frees them up from this distraction."

Columbia University psychology and education professor Derald Wing Sue has researched the stress-producing slights and insensitivities tinged with bigotry, or microaggressions, cited in Harper's study. He said the positive responses outlined in his research are a kind of social activism that gives black men a feeling that they have the ability to impact their environment.

"A person who is able to be involved in leadership, who speaks out on behalf of change, it really gives them a sense that the locus of control is within them, not others," Sue said. "When a microaggression occurs, it assails your racial identity. It tells you that you are a lesser being, that you are impotent, that you don't belong here."

Sheriff: Texas teen kills mom, 2 neighbors, then himself

McALLEN, Texas (AP)—A 19-year-old killed his mother and two neighbors before turning his gun on himself in a shooting that brought SWAT and various emergency vehicles to a rural area in Texas, authorities said Sunday.

Uvalde County Sheriff Charlie Mendeke said Dylan Westerburg gunned down his mother Friday afternoon in their home near Uvalde, about 85 miles west of San Antonio. He then went next door and killed two brothers, Arthur and Phinny Norton, Mendeke said.

Mendeke said investigators haven't determined a clear motive for the shootings. Westerburg lived with his mother in a small cabin about 20 yards from the Nortons' mobile home on the brothers' property.

Phinny Norton, 60, had some "sort of romantic relationship" with Westerburg's mother, 42-year-old Jennifer Diane Jacques, Mendeke said. Deputies had been called out to the property in the past because of domestic disputes but "nothing violent," Mendeke said.

Authorities arrived at the scene after a teenage witness called them. The teenage boy was with Arthur Norton, 58, when they saw shotgun shells and broken glass as they approached the Nortons' mobile home, Mendeke said.

"Mr. Norton enters the house," Mendeke said. "The kid who was with him hears and sees a gun blast and sees Mr. Norton fall to the floor" before running to call authorities.

When officers arrived they heard another gunshot. Not knowing whether there were multiple gunmen or whether the gunman was dead, authorities surrounded the homes and began evacuating people nearby.

It was during that search that they found Jacques' body. The family's dog had also been killed.

Mendeke said he called in about 50 to 60 officers from different agencies as well as a Texas Department of Public Safety SWAT team out of caution. Authorities closed the road leading to the property and they stayed there overnight.

"I didn't know how many shooters I had in the Norton residence when I found the mother," he said. "You're looking at farm- and ranchland. You could get into a dangerous situation."

Asia

Survivors pulled out from building 2 days after Taiwan quake

TAINAN, Taiwan (AP)—Two survivors—one found shielded under the body of her husband—were pulled out alive from a toppled high-rise apartment building on Monday, two days after a powerful quake that killed at least 36.

Taiwan's Eastern Broadcasting Corp. reported that Tsao Wei-ling called out "Here I am" as rescuers dug through to find her. A male survivor, Lee Tsung-tien, 42, was pulled out conscious from the sixth floor section of the folded 17-story building.

Rescuers also found signs of life from a 28-year-old woman who is a migrant worker and an 8-year-old girl, both conscious but trapped in the fifth-floor section, according to a notice posted at a rescue information center on site.

More than 100 people are believed to be still buried in the collapsed building from a disaster that struck during the most important family holiday in the Chinese calendar—the Lunar New Year holiday.

Family members of the missing continued to flood into the information center in search of their loved ones or sit by anxiously. Some of them walked around with green name cards around their necks indicating their missing relative's name and location in the building.

The government in Tainan, the worst-hit city, said that more than 170 people had been rescued from the 17-story building, which folded like an accordion after the quake struck.

"It was all topsy-turvy. You couldn't even tell where the ceiling was," a 15-year-old survivor, only identified by his surname, Hu, said on EBC Television. He said he had crawled out of a window to alert rescuers to his parents' location, and they were all rescued soon after Saturday's quake.

AP
Two emergency workers carry a victim recovered from a collapsed building in Tainan, Taiwan, Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016.

The death toll from Saturday's powerful 6.4-magnitude quake in south Taiwan stood at 36. Thirty-four of those were from the building collapse in Tainan city, and two other people died elsewhere in the city.

Rescuers said Tsao was found under the body of her husband, who had shielded her from a collapsed beam, Taiwan's government-run Central News Agency reported. Her husband and 2-year-son were found dead, while five members of her family remained unaccounted for, it said.

Earthquakes frequently rattle Taiwan, but most are minor and cause little or no damage, though a magnitude-7.6 quake in central Taiwan in 1999 killed more than 2,300 people.

The spectacular fall of the high-rise, built in 1989, raised questions about whether its construction had been shoddy. Tainan's government said the building had not been listed as a dangerous structure, and Taiwan's interior minister, Chen Wei-zen, said an investigation would examine whether the developer had cut corners.

The extended Lunar New Year holiday officially started Monday, but celebrations were subdued and both President Ma Ying-jeou and President-elect Tsai Ing-wen canceled the handing out of envelopes of cash in their hometowns, a holiday tradition for Taiwan's leader.

UN condemns NKorea launch, pledges significant new sanctions

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The U.N. Security Council on Sunday strongly condemned North Korea's launch of a long-range rocket that world leaders denounced as a banned test of dangerous ballistic missile technology and another "intolerable provocation." The U.N.'s most powerful body pledged to quickly adopt a new resolution with "significant" new sanctions.

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un went ahead with the launch just two hours after an eight-day window opened early Sunday, and a month after the country's fourth nuclear test. He ignored an appeal from China, its neighbor and important ally, not to proceed and in another slap to Beijing, he chose the eve of the Chinese New Year, the country's most important holiday.

Since its Jan. 6 nuclear test, which the North claimed was a powerful hydrogen bomb but experts believe was not, China and the United States have been negotiating the text of a new Security Council sanctions resolution.

The U.S., backed by its Western allies, Japan and South Korea, wants tough sanctions reflecting Kim's defiance of the Security Council. But diplomats say China, the North's key protector in the council, is reluctant to impose economic measures that could cause North Korea's economy to collapse.

The 15-member Security Council strongly condemned the launch and pledged to "expeditiously" adopt a new resolution with "further significant measures"—U.N. code for sanctions. The word "robust" referring to the measures was in an initial draft, but was dropped in the final statement.

U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power told reporters that "it cannot be business as usual" after two successive North Korean acts that are "hostile and illegal."

"What's important is that the Security Council unites," Power said. "China is a critical player. ... We are hopeful that China, like all council members, will see the grave threat to regional and international peace and security, see the importance of adopting tough, unprecedented measures, breaking new ground here, exceeding the expectations of Kim Jong Un."

However, China's U.N. ambassador, Liu Jieyi, made clear that unprecedented sanctions aren't Beijing's priority.

PH fears new fighting with stalled Muslim autonomy

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine Congress ended its last regular session of its term Wednesday without passing a Muslim autonomy bill that aims to peacefully settle a decades-long Muslim rebellion in the south, sparking concerns the setback may ignite new fighting.

Lawmakers had until Wednesday to deliberate on the bill before they start a three-month break at the end of the week. The long-delayed legislation is at the heart of a peace deal signed by the largest Muslim rebel group and the government of President Benigno Aquino III, whose term ends in June.

The killing of 44 police commandos in fighting that involved some guerrillas from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front early last year scuttled the early passage of the Muslim autonomy bill outlined in the 2014 peace deal. The separatist conflict has left 150,000 people dead and stunted development in the country's poorest region.

The peace deal, which seeks to provide a more powerful and potentially larger autonomous region to minority Muslims in the south of the predominantly Roman Catholic nation, should have been a major legacy of Aquino's presidency.

While the Malaysian-brokered peace accord remains effective, a new autonomy bill will have to be presented to the new Congress under Aquino's successor. The presidential election is May 9.

"This delays the final settlement," said Teresita Deles, the presidential adviser on the talks. "There will be elements that will completely lose hope that this can really be done."

Government peace negotiator Miriam Coronel-Ferrer said hard-line groups like the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, which opposed peace talks and vowed to continue fighting for a separate Muslim homeland in the south, could exploit the setback.

"They will be emboldened to renew their course in the hope that they will harvest the discontent," Ferrer said.

She blamed "the sheer indifference and chronic absenteeism of a majority of the legislators" in part for the failure to pass the bill, adding, "at this low point, we call for sobriety and perseverance."

Mohagher Iqbal, a senior rebel leader, has said that delays in the passage of the autonomy bill and efforts to water it down have sparked frustration among guerrillas and Muslims in the south. Residents have staged rallies to protest the delays in two predominantly Muslim cities.

U.S. Ambassador Philip Goldberg said it is crucial for peacemaking efforts to continue and for people to remain vigilant to ensure that extremist groups like the Islamic State group can't spread their influence in the country's south.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Reports hint Suu Kyi could become Myanmar president

NAYPYITAW, Myanmar (AP)—Two pro-government television channels say that "positive results" could come out of negotiations between Myanmar's military chief and Aung San Suu Kyi on suspending a constitutional clause that prevents her from becoming the president. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy Party won a landslide victory in the Nov. 8 general elections. But she is barred from becoming president because of the Constitution's Article 59 (f), which says anyone with a foreign spouse or children cannot hold the executive office. Suu Kyi's late husband was British as are her two sons. In separate but identical broadcasts late Sunday, Sky Net and Myanmar National Television said "positive results could come out on the negotiation for the suspension of the constitution Article 59 (f)."

Sri Lanka's Tamil leaders call for UN help on 4,000 missing

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka's ethnic Tamil leaders on Sunday asked the top U.N. human rights official to help determine the fate of more than 4,000 civilians reported missing in the country's long civil war amid the government's assertion that most of them are probably dead. The U.N. official, Zeid Raad al-Hussein, met with the chief minister of Sri Lanka's Northern Province, the center of the civil war, which ended in 2009. Zeid is on a four-day visit to Sri Lanka to review measures taken by the government to investigate alleged war abuses during the war. Both the Sri Lankan government and the defeated Tamil Tiger rebels are accused of serious human rights violations. According to U.N. estimates, up to 100,000 people were killed in the 26-year war, but many more are feared to have died, including up to 40,000 civilians in the final months of the fighting.

Murder suspect of dismembered Spaniard arrested in Cambodia

PNHOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—A Spanish man who is the prime suspect in the gruesome murder of a fellow Spaniard was arrested in Cambodia, where he is believed to have fled after the victim's dismembered body was recovered piece by piece from Bangkok's Chao Phraya River, police said Monday. The suspect identified as Artur Segarra Princep, 36, was arrested Sunday evening at a restaurant in the Cambodian coastal town of Sihanoukville where he had checked into a guesthouse a few days earlier, said the regional police chief Gen. Chuon Narin. "We received a request from Thai police to arrest this man, and after launching an investigation we found him," said Chuon Narin. "We will hand him over to Thailand."

World

Turkey: Reaching limits but will keep taking in refugees

KILIS, Turkey (AP)—Turkey has reached the end of its "capacity to absorb" refugees but will continue to take them in, the deputy premier said Sunday, as his country faced mounting pressure to open its border to tens of thousands of Syrians who have fled a government onslaught.

The United Arab Emirates meanwhile joined Saudi Arabia in saying that it was open to the idea of sending ground troops to Syria to battle the Islamic State group, raising the possibility of even greater foreign involvement in the five-year-old civil war.

Turkish authorities say up to 35,000 Syrians have massed along the border, which remained closed for a third day on Sunday. The governor of the Turkish border province of Kilis said Saturday that Turkey would provide aid to the displaced within Syria, but would only open the gates in the event of an "extraordinary crisis."

Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus told CNN-Turk television that Turkey is now hosting a total of 3 million refugees, including 2.5 million Syrians.

AP

In this photo provided by Turkish Islamic aid group IHH, workers set up tents for displaced Syrians at a temporary refugee camp in northern Syria, near Bab al-Salameh border crossing with Turkey, background, Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016.

"Turkey has reached the end of its capacity to absorb (refugees)," Kurtulmus said. "But in the end, these people have nowhere else to go. Either they will die beneath the bombings and Turkey will ... watch the massacre like the rest of the world, or we will open our borders."

Kurtulmus said some 15,000 refugees from Syria were admitted in the past few days, without elaborating. He put the number of refugees being cared for on the other side of the border at 30,000.

He did not explain why the Turkish border gate at Oncupinar, opposite the Bab al-Salameh crossing in Syria, was being kept closed or why tens of thousands of refugees were not immediately being let in.

In Syria, pro-government forces pressed ahead with their offensive in the northern Aleppo province, which has caused the massive displacement of civilians toward the Turkish border. Opposition activists said Syrian ground troops backed by Russian airstrikes were engaged in intense fighting with insurgents around the village of Ratyan and surrounding areas north of Aleppo city.

The army has almost fully encircled Aleppo, Syria's largest city and one-time commercial center, preparing the way for a blockade. The main supply line to the Turkish border has already been cut and many residents of the city were looking to leave, anticipating severe shortages in coming days.

Dr. Ahmad Abdelaziz, of the Syrian American Medical Society, a humanitarian organization, said there were only four general surgeons for the entire city.

"The people there are very worried there could be a siege at any time. We expect a lot of people to get out of the city if the situation remains like this, if there is no improvement," he said.

Abdelaziz, who goes in and out of Aleppo but spoke to the AP from the Turkish city of Gaziantep, described a dire scene at the border and said it was difficult to get medicine to the people gathered there.

"There are so many old people and children in the cold weather... They are surrounded by ISIS from the east, the regime from the south and Kurdish forces from the west," he said, using an acronym for the Islamic State group.

On Saturday, the European Union urged Turkey to open its borders, saying it was providing aid to Ankara for that purpose. EU nations have committed 3 billion euros ($3.3 billion) to Turkey to help refugees, part of incentives aimed at persuading Turkey to do more to stop thousands of migrants from leaving for Greece.

Kurtulmus estimated that "in the worst case scenario" as many as 1 million more refugees could flee Aleppo and surrounding areas.

The Syrian uprising began in March 2011 with mostly peaceful protests but escalated into a full-blown civil war after a harsh government crackdown. The fighting has killed more than 250,000 people and forced millions to flee the country.

The war has drawn in regional and international rivals, with a U.S.-led coalition launching airstrikes against the IS group and Russian warplanes backing Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces.

The Lebanese Hezbollah group has sent thousands of fighters to back Assad while Iran has dispatched what it refers to as "military advisers," many of whom have been killed in combat in recent weeks.

Saudi Arabia -- one of the main backers of the rebels battling to topple Assad -- said last week it was willing in principle to send ground troops to battle IS.

The United Arab Emirates' Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash echoed that pledge Sunday, saying "we have been frustrated at the slow pace of confronting Daesh," using the Arabic acronym for IS. He stressed that any deployment would be relatively small, saying: "We're not talking about thousands of troops."

Even a small force, however, could alarm Damascus and escalate regional tensions even further. On Saturday, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem said any Saudi or other foreign ground troops who enter Syria would "return home in wooden coffins."

Pope Francis visit to celebrate Mexico's indigenous church

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico (AP)—Pope Francis' visit to the heavily indigenous Mexican state of Chiapas appears aimed at celebrating the region's "Indian church," a mix of Catholicism and indigenous culture once considered a thorn in the side of standard liturgy by the Vatican.

The inclusion of pine boughs and eggs, the Mayan faithful's references to "God the Father and Mother" and the use of indigenous elements in Masses long caused church officials to bristle.

Not so with history's first Latin American pope, who the Vatican said will present a decree during his Feb. 15 visit authorizing the use of indigenous languages. The Chiapas Mass itself would include readings and songs in three different indigenous languages.

"Within the church there have always been errors," said Felipe Arizmendi, the Bishop of San Cristobal de las Casas, the colonial city where Francis will preside over Mass. "So we recognize that many times, we have not given them (the indigenous) their place."

Francis' visit comes amid strong challenges to the church in the southern state, including huge inroads by evangelical Protestants and grinding poverty in a region rich with coffee, Mayan ruins, pine-covered hills and jungles. Chiapas has the high poverty rate in Mexico at 76.2 percent.

The challenges have always included the church's relations with indigenous communities who have struggled for centuries to maintain their traditions and independence, sometimes embracing and sometimes clashing with the hierarchy.

Religious practices in some communities encourage rampant alcohol abuse, crushing debts and autocratic local bosses known as "caciques."

"Traditional" Catholic towns often require impoverished residents to go into debt to pay for annual, alcohol-fueled festivals for the local patron saint. Most of the food, drink, flowers and fireworks for the festivals are bought from the local bosses, who sell them to residents on credit at usurious rates.

Tattoos on the rebound in Cuba after years underground

HAVANA (AP)—Bent in concentration beneath the vaulted ceiling of his Old Havana studio, Mauro Coca draws a tropical bird in blue ink down the length of Julivic Marquez's arm.

"That's really good," the 21-year-old art student says, and Coca presses his electric needle to her forearm. She winces as the needle buzzes across her skin, inking the first centimeters of what will take nine hours to become a red, blue and green quetzal, the brilliantly colored national bird of Guatemala.

During the sinful heydays of the 1950s, tattoos were for the sailors prowling Havana's waterfront and boozy tourists lurching from sex shows to gambling dens. The socialist revolution drove tattooing even further underground, with health inspectors and police raiding studios seen as health hazards and vestiges of capitalist immorality.

Now skin art is on the rebound in Cuba, with hundreds of tattoo parlors operating largely unmolested across the country.

The studio where Coca works, La Marca, or The Brand, is the most salient example of Cuba's new acceptance of tattooing. The studio sits on two floors of a refurbished colonial building in the middle of Old Havana, the government-restored heart of the city, giving it the clear if tacit endorsement of the City Historian's Office, the agency overseeing every aspect of development in Havana's most important tourist attraction.

La Marca opened a year ago on one of Old Havana's busiest streets and has done some 600 tattoos for a mix of Cuban and foreign clients. It's been used as a space for government-sponsored art events and its managers say they've never had any trouble with the state despite their lack of a license explicitly permitting tattooing.

Like so many other activities in Cuba, tattooing is neither illegal nor explicitly permitted and regulated, leaving it operating in the gray area Cubans refer to as "alegal," meaning simply that something lacks any legal status, positive or negative. And like so many other goods, tattooing supplies can't be purchased from state businesses, meaning ink, needles and other goods must be imported in travelers' luggage.

Somalia spokesman: Video shows laptop handed to bomb suspect

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Security video footage taken at Mogadishu airport shows two men handing what looks like a laptop computer to the suspected suicide bomber after he passed through the security checkpoint, Somalia's government spokesman said Sunday.

At least one of the men delivering the laptop was an airport employee, government spokesman Abdisalam Aato told The Associated Press.

The man who received the laptop is the suspected suicide bomber who was blown from the Daallo Airlines jet on Tuesday creating a gaping hole in the fuselage and forcing the plane to make an emergency landing back at the Mogadishu airport. It is believed the laptop-like device was the bomb that caused the explosion. The plane's pilot said that if the explosion happened when the aircraft was at a higher altitude it could have caused the jet to crash.

"At least 20 people, including the two men in the CCTV footage who handed over the laptop to the suspected bomber, were arrested in connection with the explosion in the aircraft," said spokesman Aato.

"It was a deliberate act of terrorism," he said. "Investigations are still ongoing." Somalia's government has said it will tighten security at the airport to prevent other threats.

The CCTV video shows two men, one in a bright orange airport security vest, handing a laptop-like bag to a passenger waiting to board.

The video of the apparent security lapse at the airport fits with the description of lax security by the pilot of the plane.

"The security is zero," pilot Vlatko Vodopivec told AP.

"When we park (the plane) there, some 20 to 30 people come to the tarmac," said Vodopivec, a veteran pilot who has made numerous flights to the airport. "No one has a badge or those yellow vests. They enter and leave the plane, and no one knows who is who ... They can put anything inside when passengers leave the aircraft."

The explosion happened about 15 minutes after the plane, with 75 passengers on board, took off from the airport and was at 11,000 feet (3,500 meters) ascending toward 31,000 feet.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW

Beetle Dune delivers illusion of outdoor agility

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MCT
The 2016 Volkswagen Beetle Dune, beefed-up and off-road inspired, is athletic and agile—especially for urban duties.

Since its rebirth in 1998, the Volkswagen Beetle has been the subject of a key question for those possessing a Y chromosome: Are you man enough to drive one? Its Hello Kitty styling is a bit emasculating.

This is no small thing.

While the Beetle was originally created under the auspices of the Nazi party and engineered by Ferdinand Porsche, its popularity in the 1960s came about—improbably enough for a product created by anti-Semites—at the hands of a bunch of Jewish mad men on Madison Avenue. And while the Beetle was a hot-seller back then, the current car's sales are much like the car itself, a faint reminder of the original.

Of course, much has changed since Hitler's "Strength Through Joy Car" captured the imagination of '60s-era car buyers who had become bored by Detroit's offerings. Where Americans, especially young ones, were once infatuated with coupes, they are now fascinated by utility vehicles.

So if you're trying to sell a coupe, why not tart it up to give it a more utility-like appearance? Makes sense, right?

Of course it does.

That's why we now have the 2016 Volkswagen Beetle Dune, which is based on the Baja Bugs that first ventured off-road into the dunes of the West Coast some 40 years ago. But unlike those bugs, which were born in the aftermarket, the Beetle Dune comes straight from the factory with some rather butch accoutrements, none of which are much use off-road.

It starts with a more sporting appearance, which includes wheel arches accented in black trim, polished aluminum sills, revised front fascia with a large air intake, and a ride height that's been raised 0.2 inches. The rear track is also 0.2 inches wider, which along with LED lights, a rear spoiler and 18-inch wheels, lends the Dune a tougher look for those who have always liked the Beetle but couldn't bring themselves to buy a car that's so huggable.

Even the colors are palatable, with the Dune being offered in three colors: pure white, deep black pearl and sandstorm yellow. If you choose the yellow, which looks like deli mustard, the hue is continued inside.

Other special interior amenities include heated front sport seats with orange stitching, a unique instrument cluster and a leather-wrapped steering wheel. Like other Beetle models, the Dune features the newest Volkswagen infotainment system, which features a 6.3-inch touchscreen and a proximity sensor that pulls up essential on-screen buttons when it senses a hand nearby. It's a huge improvement over the previous system and, along with the multi-function steering wheel, proves to be one of the industry's better systems. Best of all, it supports Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and MirrorLink smartphone integration.

And, as with other Beetles, you'll find the Dune's basic package familiar. This is a two-and-two coupe with good room for two people, along with two more very understanding friends or family members. The seats are fairly comfortable, although more side bolstering would be nice. Headroom is generous; legroom is as well, but using the latter eliminates back seat legroom.

Being that modern-day Beetles are stylish hatchbacks, not notchbacks like the rear-engined original, they offer decent cargo space, but the rounded sheet metal robs the car of some its practicality.

But if you want more practicality, you can always just buy a Golf. As it turns out, the Beetle Dune is little more than a Golf with a little more ride height. Like the Golf and Jetta, the Dune is powered by a 1.8-liter four-cylinder engine rated at 170 horsepower and 184 pound-feet of torque and mated to a six-speed automatic transmission. An automatic post-collision braking system is standard, which applies the brakes if the car senses that a collision is imminent. In addition, the Beetle comes with stability control, a host of air bags and other safety systems.

Of course, if you were expecting the Beetle Dune to behave differently than other Beetles, you'd be mistaken.

The Dune's added ride height doesn't detract from the Beetle's well-tuned suspension, which offers up an absorbent ride and the steadfast demeanor you'd expect of a German car. Deteriorating roads are handled in stride, without additional body motions or rocking. There is some body lean in corners, but it's mild, and comes on progressively. The Beetle Dune feels athletic and agile, especially for urban duties, with a fairly good turning radius for a front-driver. Road noise is noticeable, especially at highway speed, although engine noise is minimal. The engine and transmission are responsive, and the driveline is never lacking for power, particularly with the transmission in post mode. It's a package that's easy to live with and love, and offers the Beetle buyer something unique. And its added ride height will be appreciated by those who live in snowier climes.

For now, you can only get the Dune as a coupe; a convertible will come later in the model year.

And while the car may recall the Beetles that plied the beaches of Baja, its biggest market may be in the northern tier of states.

But is it butch enough for bros? That's up to you and your ego.

Larry Printz is automotive editor writer and editor in Burlington, Vt. Readers may send him email at TheDrivingPrintz@gmail.com.

NUTS & BOLTS

- Engine: Turbocharged 1.8-liter four-cylinder
- Horsepower: 170
- Torque: 184 pound-feet
- Wheelbase: 100 inches
- Length: 168.7 inches
- Weight: 3,093 pounds
- Environmental Protection Agency rating (city/highway): 25/34 mpg
- Base price: $23,995
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration safety rating: 5 stars

MOTORING

Nitrogen-filled tires are no 'hoax'

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

As a follow-up to my column regarding nitrogen use in tires, this from John MacBain, Ph.D:

"Nitrogen obeys the same universal gas law as oxygen, hydrogen, and every other gas known to man. Both nitrogen-filled tires and air-filled tires will show exactly and precisely the same pressure sensitivity to ambient temperature changes. As to comparing the tires on the vehicle to the spare to see which if any are nitrogen-filled, this too fails for the same reason plus an additional reason. The tires on the vehicle will lose a small amount of air during normal driving beyond the amount lost by the spare due to flexing of the tires against the rims and the flexing of the rubber itself. About the only advantage that actually accrues is that nitrogen may leak out of a tire more slowly as the molecule size is physically larger than that of oxygen and most other components of air. But since air is 78 percent nitrogen, the net advantage even on this score is minimal at best. The nitrogen 'advantage' is a ridiculous hoax stemming from the fact that Indycars and other racers fill their tires with nitrogen.

"The truth is that these racing circuits use nitrogen in their tires not because of any vehicular advantage of doing such. They need pressurized nitrogen in the pits for other purposes, and using that pressurized nitrogen source for tires as well simplifies their lives by requiring only one pressurized gas source rather than having pressurized air as well. I appreciate your consideration. Please stamp out this ridiculous theory and be part of the solution in educating your readers. If you want further concurrence, please consult with any physicist or mechanical engineer at the (University of Minnesota)."

A: Having been a racer for four decades, I would say you could not be more mistaken. I can assure you that nitrogen is not used to fill race tires just as a convenience. If there were no reason to use nitrogen in tires, why would racers pay the extra cost for nitrogen versus compressed air that works very nicely for air wrenches, air jacks, etc.? The prime benefit of nitrogen is more predictable and stable tire pressures under racing conditions. Pure nitrogen is moisture-free. Since race tire temperatures often exceed the 212 degrees, moisture vaporizing inside the tire would play havoc with tire pressures, a huge factor in light of the fact that a one-half pound change in tire pressure can significantly affect the handling of a 3,400-pound NASCAR stock car.

In regard to the validity of comparing nitrogen-filled tires to the air-filled spare, you correctly identified the precise benefit—less pressure loss in nitrogen-filled tires due to the larger size of nitrogen molecules. And of course, the lack of moisture in nitrogen reduces the potential for wheel corrosion.

"Hoax"? I think not. Granted, the benefits of nitrogen in tires are small, but very real. I can't help but wonder who the physicists or mechanical engineers would concur with. Academia or the real world? I'll take real world any day.

ABOUT THE WRITER
Paul Brand, author of "How to Repair Your Car," is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

Life & Style

Chef Yu shows creative touch in Lunar New Year menu

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Visiting chef de cuisine Jacky Yu of Park Hyatt Ningbo Resort and Spa said he had to be creative when preparing the menu for Hyatt Regency Saipan's celebration of the Chinese Lunar New Year.

Yu, who spent 10 of his 16-year culinary career with Hyatt, was invited by Hyatt Regency Saipan to prepare a dinner buffet that features traditional dishes of Ningbo in Zhejiang province.

He let members of local media taste some of his savory dishes that included crispy fried carp fillet in sweet and soya sauce, fried prawn with minced pork, wok-fried crab in soya sauce, Dongqian lake fish soup, and eight-treasure rice cake.

"Some seafood and other ingredients here were hard to find. I have to use what was here and put it together. But the style of cooking is the same as Ningbo cuisine," said Yu through an interpreter.

JON PEREZ
The sweet rice cakes goes perfectly with the saltiness of the wok-fried crab.

JON PEREZ
The fried prawns were swimming in sauce made of minced ground pork.

"Fresh seafood is also limited on Saipan but I tried my best in creating the dishes. I used what's available to cook these dishes," added Yu, who studied for three years in a culinary school in Shanghai.

"There are no cooks or chefs in our family, I'm the first one. Chinese food and recipes are hard to describe and are handed down by other cooks. There are no formal manuscripts so most of the time you have to invent or improvise, depending on the audience."

For example, for his Dongqian lake fish soup, he used the basa fish as an alternative to their region's freshwater fish.

He also whipped up a succulent prawn dish that is swimming in a sauce of minced pork, chili, and ginger. You have to use your bare hands to peel the prawns, which was not hard to do. The minced pork sauce also made the difference with the ginger's taste fusing with the right amount of spiciness.

JON PEREZ
Chef Jacky Yu used basa fish as an alternative to his Dongqian lake fish soup.

Next up was the wok-fried crab in soya sauce adorned with rice cakes. The thick and salty soya sauce blended well with the chewy and sweet rice cakes, which has the same texture of the traditional Filipino favorite merienda *palitaw*.

The eight-treasure rice cake, made from glutinous rice, is partnered with cooked beans in coconut sauce and fruits in season. The dessert is a classic festive delicacy in Shanghai. The number eight is synonymous to good luck in Chinese tradition.

"I am really fond of cooking. I love it and I have the passion. We all love to eat in our family. Before, I used to cook for my parents and my family. But right now I have no time to do it because of my busy schedule," said Yu, who also cooks western and fusion cuisine.

Yu was invited by Hyatt Regency Saipan as part of their celebration to welcome the Chinese Lunar New Year, which started Monday. The Chinese Lunar New Year dinner buffet is only available for three nights, from Feb. 8 to 10, Monday to Wednesday, from 6pm to 9pm at the Kili Café & Terrace. Buffet includes unlimited beer, wine, and iced tea.

The Chinese Lunar New Year dinner buffet is priced at $50 per person and $35 for Club at the Hyatt members.

The Chinese Lunar New Year will welcome the Year of the Fire Monkey, the ninth of the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac.

JON PEREZ
Park Hyatt Ningbo Resort and Spa chef de cuisine Jacky Yu, right, and Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriele Colombo.

In Loving Memory

†Victor Manibusan Borja

August 23, 1962 – February 02, 2016

In his new life, he now joins his:

Paternal Grandparents: †Guillermo Cruz Borja and †Maria Cabrera Borja
Maternal Grandparents: †Joaquin Villagomez Manibusan and †Maria Reyes Manibusan
Father: †Esteban Cabrera Borja
Parents In-law: †Francisco Cabrera, †Natividad M. Pangelinan

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Eloise C. Borja
Children: Trinisha B. Paxton (Noah Paxton) and Children; Frankstevic C. Borja; Marthonia C. Borja (Conrad Manglona) and Child; Ria Encia C. Borja (Victor Shai)
Mother: Florencia Manibusan Borja
Father In-law: Jose P. Pangelinan
Brothers, Sisters and in-laws: †Alicia B. Evangelista (Miguel B. Evangelista), Children and Grandchildren; Dolores M. Borja-Chargualaf, Children and Grandchildren; †Eulogio M. King (Lydia C. King), Children and Grandchildren; Estevan M. Borja (Corazon M. Borja) Children and Grandchildren; Arsene M. Borja (Diana H. Borja), Children and Grandchildren; Raymond M. Borja (Bertha M. Borja) and Children; †Clarence M. Borja; Gilbert M. Borja (Chiona M. Borja) and Children; Jasper M. Borja (Lisa B. Aguon) and Children; Clarence M. Borja II (Brooklynn Borja) and Children; Liza M. Borja (Godfrey S. Mendiola) and Children
Brothers and Sisters in-law: Rita C. Untalan (Joal Untalan), Children and Grandchildren; Henry M. Cabrera (Petra Cabrera), Children and Grandchildren; Gilbert M. Cabrera (Joan Cabrera), Children and Grandchildren; Edwin M. Cabrera (Renae Borja) and Children; Jose M. Pangelinan (Arlene Pangelinan), Children and Grandchildren; Belta M. Pangelinan (Arthur Hofschneider), Children and Grandchildren; Elaine M. Pangelinan (Jose Manglona) and Children; Louisa P. Hermoso (Federico Hermoso), Children and Grandchildren; Jesus M. Pangelinan (Ana Sandbergen) and Children; Dolores M. Pangelinan

He will also be missed by his numerous uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

On Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 7:30am, his remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center morgue to Tinian, San Jose Church for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am, followed by interment services at the Tinian Cemetery where he will rest peacefully.

Your thoughts, prayers, and presence are sincerely appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase
Eloise C. Borja, Children and Family

Super Bowl 50 advertising winners and losers

AP
This image provided by Audi shows a scene from the company's "The Commander" spot for Super Bowl 50. The ad features the new Audi R8 V10.

NEW YORK (AP)—The Denver Broncos defeated the Carolina Panthers during Super Bowl 50—and there were clear winners and losers off the field, too.

Advertisers pulled out all the stops to woo the 114 million-plus viewers during the Big Game. With 30-second ads costing up $5 million, it's a huge gamble to advertise during the game. Here are the winners whose gamble paid off, and losers who dropped the ball.

WINNERS
Audi 'Commander'

In Audi's spot, a depressed aging astronaut is reminded of his joy for life by driving an Audi sports car with his son to David Bowie's "Starman." Super Bowl watcher Raj Nijjer, from Scottsdale, Ariz., said the ad went over well at the bar where he was watching the game. "Every guy in the bar had a smile on their face," he said.

Axe 'Find Your Magic'

Axe left previously juvenile ads behind with a spot that urged teens to "Find Your Magic" and celebrate uniqueness and diversity rather than the traditional tropes of masculinity.

Bud Light 'Bud Light Party'

Capitalizing on election year buzz, Bud Light enlisted Amy Schumer and Seth Rogan to canvass America to promote "The Bud Light Party." A cameo by Paul Rudd added to the fun.

Heinz 'Weiner Stampede'

Budweiser disappointed some by retiring the puppies it featured in ads the past three years, but Heinz picked up the slack. Its ad showed dachshunds dressed like hot dogs frolicking in a field to the tune of Harry Nilsson's "Without You."

Mountain Dew 'Puppymonkeybaby'

Love it or hate it, Mountain Dew's bizarre ad showing a creature that was part puppy, part monkey and part baby was one of the most talked about spots of the evening.

LOSERS
PHARMACEUTICAL ADS

Three pharmaceutical ads struck a jarring tone with viewers. One promoted an anti-diarrhea medication Xifaxan and showed a small-intestines mascot trying to watch a football game. Another sought to raise awareness about "opioid-induced constipation." A third tackled toe fungus.

"Wrong place. Wrong time. Wrong subject," Kelly O'Keefe, a marketing professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, said of the constipation ad.

HENKEL

In first time advertiser Henkel's commercial for its Persil ProClean detergent, a tuxedoed spokesman told us that Persil ProClean beat rival detergents in a test - a generic-feeling ad people have seen many, many times before.

QUICKEN LOANS

First time advertiser Quicken Loans imagined a world where it's as easy to get a loan on your smartphone as it is to buy music and plane tickets. "Push button, get mortgage," copy reads. Some viewers took to Twitter to complain the ad reminded them a little too much of the 2008 financial housing bubble and subsequent financial crisis.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

The tourist destination created an ad that showed historical events going in reverse to illustrate the idea that American history started with Colonial Williamsburg. Some viewers were offended that one of the events going in reverse was the collapse of the twin towers on September 11.

Offbeat humor and upbeat messages dominate Super Bowl 50 ads

NEW YORK (AP)—From a strange creature called "Puppymonkeybaby" to a tear inducing Audi ad, Super Bowl ads ran the gamut this year from offbeat humor to heartfelt messages.

On advertising's biggest night, Chrysler celebrated Jeep with an ad filled featuring black-and-white portraits of veterans, kids and pop icons. In Audi's spot, a depressed aging astronaut remembers his joy for life by driving an Audi sports car with his son. And in a quirky Doritos ad, a fetus in a sonogram appears to rocket out of the womb to chase a bag of chips the mother angrily tossed away.

The goal for advertisers: to stand out and win over the 114 million-plus people watching the big game on Super Bowl Sunday. With ads costing a record $5 million for 30 seconds this year, the stakes are high to stand out from the 40-plus advertisers and be remembered.

"Super Bowl advertisers are sticking with light themes," said Tim Calkins, a marketing professor at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management."Last year we had serious ads about fathers and mortality. This year the ads are funny and creative."

Offbeat humor reigned with a creature called "Puppymonkeybaby"—pretty much exactly what it sounds like—in an ad for Mountain Dew's Kickstart. The ad sought to show that three great things go together, since Kickstart combines Mountain Dew, juice and caffeine.

"It's on my list of the weirdest ad of the night, but it's very catchy and people will be talking about it," said Kelly O'Keefe, a marketing professor at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Heartfelt messages were in abundance too. SunTrust's ad urged people to take a breath and feel better about their financial health. BMW's Mini urged people to "defy labels."

Most ads managed to avoid the somber tone struck last year, when an ad for Nationwide about preventable household accidents bummed out many in the audience.

There were a couple of misfires. Two pharmaceutical ads highlighted unappealing digestive conditions. One promoted an anti-diarrhea medication Xifaxan with a small-intestines mascot taking a seat at the Super Bowl. Another sought to raise awareness about "opioid-induced constipation."

"This just isn't a topic that people want to hear about during a Super Bowl," said Villanova University marketing professor Charles Taylor.

AP
This image provided by Mountain Dew shows a "Puppymonkeybaby" in a scene from the company's Kickstart spot for Super Bowl 50.

OFFBEAT HUMOR

Mountain Dew's ad might have been the weirdest ad of the night, but Doritos' ad also seemed likely to divide viewers. The spot showed a couple during a sonogram. When the mother throws away a bag of Doritos, the fetus seems to zoom after it, to the consternation of all present.

"It caught you a little off guard, but it fit the brand," said O'Keefe.

Some Super Bowl watchers agreed. Brian Kearney, a CPA in Fort Wayne, Indiana, was watching the game with about 15 people and said the ad was a hit with his friends.

"I thought it was hysterical, we all cracked up," Kearney said.

Other ads with offbeat humor: Bud Light featured Amy Schumer and Seth Rogen traveling around America promoting "The Bud Light Party." A ShockTop ad showed actor T.J. Miller trading insults with the Shock Top talking orange wedge mascot. And the outdoor goods-and-clothing company Marmot showed a man palling around with an actual marmot he appears to be falling for, all to illustrate falling in love with the outdoors.

MONEY MONEY MONEY

Eight years after the financial meltdown, financial companies are feeling more comfortable promoting their products and services. Six advertised in the big game, including including SunTrust Banks, PayPal, Quicken Loans, Intuit brand and Intuit's TurboTax and Social Finance Inc.

Most promoted optimistic messages about money. TurboTax, for instance, enlisted Anthony Hopkins to get out the message that you can file your taxes for free with TurboTax. PayPal's music-video style ad asked people to embrace "New Money."

"We're officially over the mourning of 2008 (financial crisis)," said Mediapost columnist Barbara Lippert.

CINEMATIC ADS

Some advertisers created mini-movies. Toyota went long with a 90-second ad depicting bank robbers who use a Prius 4 to escape from police. LG enlisted Liam Neeson in a futuristic spot showing off LG's new OLED 4K TV. Hyundai's "The Chase" ad, echoed "The Revenant," showing people escaping grizzly bears by using Hyundai's remote start feature.

Coldplay lets Beyonce, Bruno Mars overshadow band

By DAVID BAUDER
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

AP
Beyoncé, Coldplay singer Chris Martin and Bruno Mars perform during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 50 football game Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, in Santa Clara, Calif.

Give Chris Martin and Coldplay credit: It takes a certain lack of ego for musicians to essentially let themselves be upstaged at their own Super Bowl show.

The British band invited Beyonce and Bruno Mars to share the spotlight Sunday for the halftime extravaganza, which evolved into a 50th anniversary tribute to Super Bowl shows of yore. Both of the guest artists, with experience as headliners of their own on the year's biggest entertainment platform, pushed up the show's energy level.

Martin and Coldplay have a good ear for pop hooks and although they try hard, have difficulty commanding a stage as big as this. With the opening "Viva La Vida" and snippet of "Paradise," they seemed to get lost in their surroundings—the pinwheels of color on the floor of the stage, the young people coming out with violins, the dancers working on the field.

On "Adventure of a Lifetime," their latest hit, Martin retreated and interacted with his fellow band members instead of working the crowd and the performance was much stronger for it.

Then he ceded the stage to a confident and assured Mars and a crew of background dancers. There was good reason: "Uptown Funk" crackled with an energy unmatched by any of Coldplay's material.

Beyonce took the field, surrounded by dancers with similar Afros to sing part of her new black power anthem, "Formation." It was a gutsy move: Martin had said last week that he wouldn't perform Coldplay's collaboration with Queen Bey, "Hymn For the Weekend," because it was too new. Instead, she breaks out a song released this weekend that many of the 100 million-plus watching on TV probably hadn't heard. Because she can.

She worked it hard, and caught herself just in time after nearly slipping and falling on a dance move. With Mars and Martin, they segued into a mashup of "Uptown Funk" and "Formation."

Sam Hunt: Playing Super Bowl blends love for music, sports

AP
Performer Sam Hunt poses for a photograph in his trailer after performing at the Super Bowl 50 Tailgate Party Sunday, Feb.7, 2016, in Santa Clara, Calif.

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—As a kid, Sam Hunt dreamt of playing in the Super Bowl. And he was on the right path as a quarterback for both Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

But it's his music that's brought him to the big game.

The Grammy-nominated country singer performed at the Super Bowl 50 Tailgate Party and said he loved combining his two favorite worlds Sunday.

"I love how the NFL and NCAA ... (and) football has incorporated music (and) entertainment into their world, and vice versa," Hunt said in an interview at Levi's Stadium after his performance. "So it's exciting because those are the two biggest parts of my life, sports and music, so to blend the two here today is pretty cool."

Hunt sang hit songs from his 2014 debut album, "Montevallo," including "Leave the Night On," ''Take Your Time," and "House Party" "Break Up in a Small Town."

He said his dreams of playing pro football "slowly shifted into becoming a musician."

"It's cool to be a part of the festivities in the new world that I'm participating in now," said Hunt, who's nominated for two Grammy Awards at next week's ceremony. "It's worked out."

Beyonce announces 2016 Formation World Tour

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—Beyonce is working overtime this weekend: After releasing a new song Saturday and performing at the Super Bowl on Sunday, she's announced a new stadium tour.

The Grammy-winning singer announced her 2016 Formation World Tour in a commercial after she performed at the halftime show with Bruno Mars and Coldplay. The tour will kick off April 27 in Miami and the diva will perform shows in North America and Europe. The tour wraps on July 31 in Brussels.

Pre-sale tickets for American Express cardholders go on sale Tuesday; tickets for general public will be available Feb. 15.

The singer was last on a stadium tour—the On the Run Tour with husband Jay Z—in 2014, a year after she headlined the Super Bowl halftime show in New Orleans. Sunday's halftime performance included Beyonce's new song, "Formation," released Saturday causing Internet frenzy.

AP
Beyoncé performs during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 50 football game between the Denver Broncos and the Carolina Panthers, Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, in Santa Clara, Calif.

Stepson with addicted mom must learn that she is sick

DEAR ABBY: My stepson just turned 7. My husband was granted custody because the mother was declared unfit due to her drug abuse. She was granted supervised visits until she can pass two consecutive drug tests.

Over the last year and a half, her visits have become few and far between. My husband and I think it would be a good idea for "Tony" to start seeing a therapist again. He doesn't talk about his mother often, and I'm worried he may be bottling up a lot of his feelings.

Tony is starting to ask more questions about his mom—like why he can't stay the night with her, why he can't live with her, and why he hasn't seen her much lately. I try not to say anything negative about her.

Is it time to explain the situation to him? He is still so young, and I don't know how to explain things in a way he would understand. If you were me, what would you do?

STEPMOM IN ALABAMA

DEAR STEPMOM: You and your husband are wise to want to prevent problems before they happen. If I were in your situation, I would talk to Tony's therapist, explain what's going on, and ask for pointers regarding his questions and his behavior.

My instinct would be to tell the boy that his mother doesn't see him because she is sick. It's the truth. When he's older, he will need to know that there may be an inherited predisposition to addiction in his family—but for now that can wait. Definitely contact the therapist if you think he/she was a good one.

DEAR ABBY: I used to be best friends with this girl I met in kindergarten. Over the years we became like sisters and did everything together. We played Barbies, went on adventures, shopping, saw movies and had sleepovers. As we grew older, we began trusting each other with our lives. I could tell her anything and everything, and I was there for her whenever she needed support or a shoulder to cry on.

However, now that we are older, we have slowly noticed small differences in our lives. She became focused on her studies and art. I joined the cheerleading squad and became interested in meeting new people. Our lives have diverged, and now it's like we have become complete strangers.

I want our friendship to go back to the way it was. What can I say or do to show her I miss the old her?

CONFUSED EX-FRIEND

DEAR CONFUSED: As people mature, it is not uncommon for their interests to diverge. This is normal, and it may be what has happened with you and your longtime friend. If you miss the closeness you once had, tell her so. But do not expect it to magically return your relationship to what it was.

You are both sharing another adventure now—exploring the interests and relationships you are developing as adults. It's possible that in the future your paths will converge again. When people are true friends, their ability to communicate on a meaningful level can last forever despite intervals when they are not in contact.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

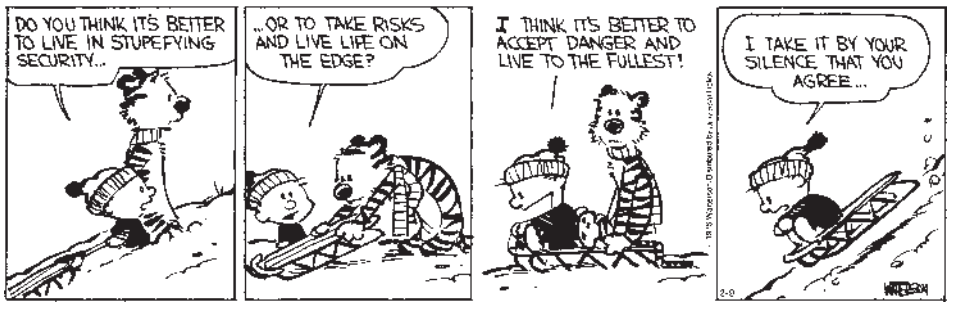
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

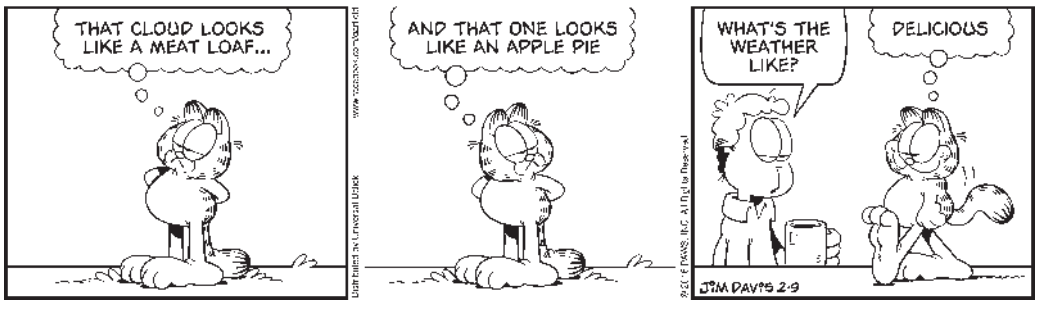
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


DO YOU THINK IT'S BETTER TO LIVE IN STUPEFYING SECURITY...
...OR TO TAKE RISKS AND LIVE LIFE ON THE EDGE?
I THINK IT'S BETTER TO ACCEPT DANGER AND LIVE TO THE FULLEST!
I TAKE IT BY YOUR SILENCE THAT YOU AGREE...
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

THESE STAR WARS VALENTINES ARE KIND OF COOL.
No...
I'LL KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR WHEN I SEE IT.
BUT I DON'T THINK THEY HAVE WHAT I WANT HERE.
IT'S PONIES OR NOTHING, HUH?
HEY. WE'VE ONLY BEEN TO FOUR STORES. NO EYE-ROLLING TILL THE SIXTH.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Slightly wet
5 Lima's land
9 Valentine's Day mo.
12 Sharif of "Funny Girl"
13 War god
14 — pro nobis
15 Sleep like a bear
17 Grafton's "— for Ricochet"
18 Minus
19 Hollanders
21 Spanish hero of yore
24 Beige
25 Site of Apra Harbor
26 Treeless plain
30 Needlefish
31 Tightwad
32 Shock partner
33 Pre-tax sum
35 Bake sale orgs.
36 Failed at-bats
37 Acts like a raptor
38 Mushrooms, e.g.
40 Chop —
42 — tizzy (worked up)
43 Immunize
48 In shape
49 Listending abbr.
50 Dark blue
51 Paris summer
52 Poet Teasdale
53 Lighten

DOWN
1 Homer's cry
2 Parisian pal
3 Folkloric fairy queen
4 Opening bout, briefly
5 Skillets
6 Eventful periods
7 Pensioned (Abbr.)
8 Preowned wheels
9 Blessed
10 Idle or Clapton
11 Wild party
16 Flushed
20 Ornate vase
21 Early birds?
22 Maui meal
23 Make fizzy
24 Daring Knievel
26 Poses
27 Simile center
28 On holiday
29 Oil giant
31 Reasons why
34 Towboat
35 Hester with a scarlet "A"
37 Architect I.M. —
38 Small flute
39 One
40 Cicatrix
41 Pac-12 sch.
44 "Now — theater near you!"
45 Motorist's org.
46 Bigscreen buys
47 CBS logo

Solution time: 22 mins.

T	R	O	D		S	S	E		C	H	E	F	
A	C	R	I	M	O	N	Y		H	O	R	A	
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H	U	R	L		G	A	H	B	L	E	D		
I	N	C		A	H	I	E	S		H	I	M	
	G	A	R	N	E	T	S		V	A	S	E	
			U	K	E	S		H	I	T	C	H	
K	O	D	I	A	K		E	U	R				
I	R	O	N		G	A	R	F	I	E	L	D	
S	A	V	E		O	L	D	F	L	A	M	E	
S	I	F	D		D	I	E		F	A	N	F	

Yesterday's answer 2-9

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	■	9	10	11
12				■	13				■	14		
15				16					■	17		
■	■	■	18				■	19	20			
21	22	23			■	■	24				■	■
25				■	26	27					28	29
30			■	31					■	32		
33			34					■	35			
■	■	36				■	■	37				
38	39				■	40	41			■	■	■
42			■	43	44					45	46	47
48			■	49				■	50			
51			■	52					53			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tyson Houseman, 26; Mia Farrow, 71; Joe Pesci, 73; Carole King, 74.

Happy Birthday: Don't panic if you don't know where to begin with your projects. Tackle whatever comes your way and keep moving forward one step at a time. Take action and be an active participant. Focus on love, happiness and success, not regret and disappointment. Keep busy, take care of business and steer clear of people who want to argue. Your numbers are 6, 13, 22, 24, 31, 38, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Offer to help others, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Take on responsibilities that help you advance. Learn from your dealings with others, and you will feel good about who you are and what you can do. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You'll instinctively know what to do. Once you begin to head in the direction of your choice, you will find the path to success is one of great ease and joy. Embrace life and emphasize what you know and do best. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Listen and consider all the angles of every situation you face. Don't feel obligated to make a decision until you are ready to do so with confidence. Too much confusion will lead to inconsistency and promises you won't want to keep. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Explore new interests and let your creative imagination lead you in a new direction. Be open to new friendships and sharing ideas with people you feel have something to contribute. Romance is highlighted and will leave a memorable impression. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Embrace change. Fighting the inevitable will lead to stagnation. Connect with the people who have always offered you good advice and support. Recognize that time is on your side and a slow build in the right direction is your best choice. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take more time for yourself. Spend time with the people who bring you the most joy. Expand your interests and be open about how you want to move forward in regard to important relationships. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't get trapped by someone who is trying to control your every move. You have to take responsibility for your life. Make the alterations that will produce the freedom you need to follow your heart and your dreams. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't leave anything undone if you want to avoid criticism. Find out what you need to know in order to bring about change and make a difference to your world. A unique approach or technique will lead to good fortune. Love is highlighted. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll get worked up easily if you believe everything you hear. Take a step back from whatever situation you face, and you'll realize that things aren't the way you originally perceived them. Make personal changes that will enhance your knowledge. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Your determination and desire will not let you down. You will outdo anyone who challenges you and bring about an opportunity that will improve your life emotionally, financially and physically. Romance is encouraged. Speak up and make a difference. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Listen and consider all the angles before you make a decision that will influence your direction for an extended period of time. Refuse to back down or give in if there is something you really want. Explain your strategy and make things happen. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Consider what you are up against, and you'll find a workable solution that will lead to recognition and a chance to do something you've always wanted to do. Love and romance will help bring you closer to a personal goal. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and original. You are passionate and efficient.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9		6	2		4			3
				8			9	
		4						
		2			3			5
	8	1		5		2	6	
6			7			9		
						3		
	7			6				
2			1		7	4		9

Difficulty Level ★★ 2/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	3	4	6	2	5	8	1	7
7	2	8	4	3	1	6	5	9
6	1	5	8	9	7	3	2	4
5	8	3	7	1	2	9	4	6
2	4	6	9	8	3	1	7	5
1	9	7	5	4	6	2	3	8
3	5	9	2	6	4	7	8	1
4	6	2	1	7	8	5	9	3
8	7	1	3	5	9	4	6	2

Difficulty Level ★ 5/8

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

RISE AND SHINE Solution: 5 letters

N	M	S	S	L	A	E	M	O	V	I	N	G	C	H
E	O	I	L	O	O	H	C	S	B	A	N	I	A	B
R	E	I	N	A	L	A	R	M	W	I	S	P	D	R
D	E	F	S	Ⓓ	Ⓞ	Ⓞ	Ⓕ	A	N	U	P	E	M	I
L	N	L	F	S	S	G	K	R	M	Y	H	E	A	G
I	E	E	T	O	I	E	O	O	A	S	Z	S	R	H
H	R	V	W	S	C	M	T	D	E	O	N	F	G	T
C	G	I	F	S	U	I	E	R	O	A	R	T	O	N
R	I	T	E	I	V	H	F	N	C	U	E	R	R	E
A	Z	C	H	A	T	E	S	K	I	G	I	A	P	D
C	E	A	T	T	R	N	S	T	C	E	G	T	U	I
K	D	I	E	E	A	L	E	N	R	O	F	S	E	F
I	O	E	A	L	E	E	Y	S	Y	E	L	F	K	N
N	R	D	P	E	T	S	R	S	S	A	L	C	A	O
G	Y	Y	P	P	A	N	S	B	R	E	T	A	W	C

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Active, Alarm, Alert, Awake, Breath, Bright, Caffeine, Children, Class, Clock, Coffee, Confident, Cracking, Early, Energized, Fitness, Food, Fruit, Goals, Greet the Day, Happy, Hustle, Meals, Mindset, Mission, Morning, Motivation, Moving, Music, News, Pets, Plan, Program, Ready, Refreshed, School, Sleep, Snack, Snappy, Snooze, Start, Wake Up, Water, Yoga

Yesterday's Answer: Snowing

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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Commonwealth Zoning Board
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Zoning Officer

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking a qualified applicant for the position of Zoning Officer. This is a full-time position on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Duties and Responsibilities: Process permit applications including reviewing applications for compliance, tracking timelines and public notice requirements, coordinating interagency consultations, and preparing written recommendations; Conduct field surveys to inspect compliance with the Zoning Law and to collect land use information; Educate and inform the public and applicants about the zoning program and permit requirements; Conduct inspections, application assessments, and serve notices of violations as authorized by the Zoning Administrator; Gather information to update the GIS; Maintain detailed records of all actions, using paper and electronic media; Update permit information on the database; Other duties as required.

Minimum Requirements: Graduation from an accredited two-year college or university with an AA Degree. The following professional experience may substitute for the AA Degree: A minimum of 3 years of experience in any combination of land use planning, zoning, public administration, public health, business management, public policy, natural resource management, environmental management, land management, or related field; Proficiency with office software including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Explorer. Other desired experiences include ability to drive a stick-shift car and to walk into construction sites and across rough terrain; Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing; Ability to work flexible hours, including some evenings and weekends; Ability to speak in Chamorro or Carolinian a plus. Applicant must have a valid CNMI Driver's License.

The salary is $28,000.00. Health, life and retirement benefits are provided. Information about the Zoning Board and the Zoning Office may be viewed at the Zoning Board website: www.zoning.gov.mp. Application submittals should be addressed to Theresa T. Ogumoro, Zoning Administrator. Submittals may be sent via e-mail, U.S. mail, or hand delivered to the address below. Submittals must include a letter of interest, a CNMI Application for Employment, and a resume. The Application for Employment may be downloaded from the publications page of the Zoning Board website. Applicants must be US citizens, permanent residents or immediate relatives. Please Send submittals to: E-mail: Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp or by Hand Delivery to Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

The deadline to receive applications and all requirements is Monday, February 15th, 2016 at 4:30pm.

Commonwealth Zoning Board
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Zoning Enforcement Staff

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Zoning Enforcement Technician. This is a full-time position on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Duties and Responsibilities: Conduct field surveys, collect land use information, prepare and serve notices of violation and other compliance documents, write follow-up notices, maintain enforcement database and files, prepare reports, and perform other related duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements: Background experience in engineering, architecture, urban planning, environmental science, geography, economics, political science, natural science, business administration, building codes, or related field, or a minimum of 2 years of experience in any combination of land use planning, zoning, construction management, business administration, public health and safety, environmental management, public policy, natural resource management, land management, regulatory and permitting enforcement or related field; Proficiency with office software including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Explorer. Other desired experiences include ability to drive a stick-shift car and to walk into construction sites and across rough terrain; Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing; Ability to work flexible hours, including some evenings and weekends. Applicant must have a valid CNMI Driver's License.

The salary is $25,000, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Health, life and retirement benefits are provided. Application submittals should be addressed to Mr. Yubert Alepuyo, Zoning Enforcement Officer. Submittals may be sent via e-mail, FAX, U.S. mail, or hand delivered to the address below. Submittals must include a letter of interest, a CNMI Application for Employment, and a resume. The Application for Employment may be obtained from our office. Send submittals to: E-mail: Yubert.Alepuyo@zoning.gov.mp, FAX: 670-234-9666, US Mail: Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 USA, or by Hand Delivery: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

The deadline for application submittals is February 18th, 2016 at 4:30pm.

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Magic beat Hawks on Vucevic's shot, 96-94

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Another big lead got away from the Orlando Magic in the fourth quarter Sunday, but one big shot got it back just in time.

Nik Vucevic hit an 18-footer at the buzzer and the Magic beat the Atlanta Hawks 96-94, winning for only the third time in 18 games in 2016.

"It's been a rough month for us, a lot of losses, so it's good to get a win against a good team," said Vucevic, who finished with 22 points and nine rebounds, but had three fourth-quarter turnovers to aid Atlanta's comeback. "I wasn't happy about those and I wanted to make up for it."

Elfrid Payton, who set up Vucevic's winning shot with an inbounds pass with 2.2 seconds left, scored or assisted the Magic's final six baskets. Until Vucevic's game-winning shot, the Magic had gone scoreless since Payton's jump shot with 3:41 left, squandering a 94-86 lead. It was the kind of fourth-quarter letdown Magic coach Scott Skiles has witnessed repeatedly since the first of the year.

"We've had a lot of games where we appeared to have control of the game," Skiles said, "but the rebound you're supposed to get, or the three you're not supposed to give up, or the shot you're supposed to take, you don't do it. But we'll take the win."

It was the Magic's fourth win in their last 21 games against the Hawks.

Jeff Teague scored 24 for the Hawks, who had won three straight. Kent Bazemore finished with 23 points and eight rebounds for Atlanta.

Big starts by Vucevic and Even Fournier, along with seven Atlanta turnovers, staked the Magic to an early 14-point lead, and Orlando led 48-41 after a first half in which the Hawks shot 34 percent (14 for 41).

AP
Orlando Magic center Nikola Vucevic (9) shoots in front of Atlanta Hawks center Al Horford (15) and forward Kent Bazemore (24) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, in Orlando, Fla.

The margin was back to 14 until Atlanta's Thabo Sefolosha finished the third quarter with a 3-point bank shot from beyond the mid-court line.

A jumper by Victor Oladipo put the magic up 73-60, but Teague scored seven of nine straight Atlanta points early in the fourth quarter, in which the Hawks made six 3-pointers. A 3-pointer by Bazemore with 48 seconds left pulled the Hawks even for the first time since their 4-2 lead in the first minute.

"We have to stop putting ourselves in that situation of being down 14 on the road," said Hawks forward Paul Milsap. "It is unacceptable. You make it tough on yourself when you dig yourself that hole."

Celtics 128, Kings 119

In Boston, Avery Bradley scored 25 points, Isiah Thomas had 22 and the Boston Celtics held off the Sacramento Kings 128-119 on Sunday for their ninth win in 10 games.

Jared Sullinger matched his season high with 21 points and reserve Tyler Zeller had a season high 17 with seven rebounds for Boston, which committed a season high 24 turnovers but shot 56 percent.

DeMarcus Cousins led Sacramento with 31 points. Marco Belinelli and Darren Collison each had 16 points. The Kings have lost seven of eight.

The Kings had sliced a 21-point deficit to 97-91 early in the final quarter before Bradley nailed a pair of 3-pointers and scored eight points during a 15-6 spree that was capped by Evan Turner's 3-point play with just less than 6 minutes to play.

Sacramento closed it to five points with under 2 minutes left, but Thomas scored nine of 11 points for Boston to seal it.

Coming off a buzzer-beating 3-point shot by Bradley that lifted Boston to an improbable victory in Cleveland on Friday night, the Celtics started fast, nailing five of their initial seven on 3-point attempts to pull to a 38-22 edge late in the first quarter.

The Kings cut it to 59-51 before Boston went on a 9-0 spree en route to a 74-58 halftime lead.

The Celtics pushed their advantage to 21 points on Thomas' 3 from the right wing early in the third, but the Kings followed with a 15-2 run to close the gap to 95-87 after three.

Nuggets 101, Knicks 96

In New York, rookie Emmanuel Mudiay scored nine of his 15 points during a decisive fourth-quarter run, and Denver beat the fading Knicks.

Former Knicks forward Danilo Gallinari and Will Barton each had 19 points to lead the Nuggets, who won for the third time in four games. But it was Mudiay, who was just 2 for 12 through three quarters, who delivered nearly all the points during an 11-2 spurt that put the Nuggets in control after the game was tied at 86-all.

Kristaps Porzingis had 21 points and 13 rebounds for the Knicks, who have lost five in a row and nine of 10 since they were 22-22 and looking like a realistic playoff team.

Carmelo Anthony returned to face his former team after missing a game to rest his sore left knee, finishing with 21 points, seven assists and six rebounds.

Clippers 100, Heat 93

In Miami, Chris Paul had a game-high 22 points, Jamal Crawford added 20 off the bench and the Clippers beat the Heat.

J.J. Redick scored 14 points, Wesley Johnson had 10 and DeAndre Jordan and Cole Aldrich grabbed 11 rebounds each for the Clippers, who won despite missing 14 consecutive shots in the first quarter and swept the two-game season series with Miami.

Paul started 0 for 9, but made two 3-pointers late to help seal it for the Clippers.

Chris Bosh, Dwyane Wade and Goran Dragic all scored 17 points for Miami, which missed a chance to finish the day fourth in the Eastern Conference standings.

NBA reviewing if jump-on-back foul should be flagrant

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA is reviewing whether the act of jumping on a player's back to intentionally foul him should be interpreted as a flagrant foul.

Boston Celtics coach Brad Stevens told reporters Sunday that a memo from the NBA said that act would now be ruled as a flagrant 1 foul. But a league spokesman says there has been no rule change, only that league officials are discussing how the play should be interpreted.

If it became a flagrant 1, the team that was fouled would keep possession after the two free throws.

"Telling a guy he can't jump on someone's back is not that big of a rule change," Los Angeles Clippers coach Doc Rivers said Sunday.

Houston's Dwight Howard and Detroit's Andre Drummond have both been subjected to the act, with players jumping on their backs to send the notoriously poor free throw shooters to the line. They are also frequently fouled intentionally away from the ball, along with the Clippers' DeAndre Jordan, because they are among the league's worst free throw shooters.

The NBA is expected to consider making some sort of rule change this summer in an effort to get teams away from using such a ploy.

"We'll do whatever's necessary, but I don't think anybody wants to see a free throw contest," said Miami coach Erik Spoelstra, who has seen Heat center Hassan Whiteside challenged by the Hack-a-Somebody ploy several times in the last couple seasons. "But if it comes down to it, so be it."

And on Sunday in the nationally televised Heat-Clippers game in Miami, both Rivers and Spoelstra used the intentional foul trick early.

The Heat fouled Jordan late in the first quarter, and the Clippers' center missed both. So the Clippers countered a few seconds later, taking Jordan out of the game and replacing him with Cole Aldrich—who immediately wrapped up Whiteside away from the ball. Whiteside made one of his two free throws.

There is some irony with this possible change and its potential effect on the Clippers, in that Jordan is the player perhaps most regularly targeted by the intentional foul move—and it was their own star guard Chris Paul who famously jumped on Howard's back to commit a foul while trying to give the impression that he was merely jostling the Houston center for a rebound in last year's playoffs.

"It's a rule," Rivers said, "and you've got to take advantage of every rule to help your team win."

Reigning dunk champ LaVine: I've got some tricks up my sleeve

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Zach LaVine came to All-Star weekend in New York last year as an under-the-radar rookie toiling away for one of the league's worst teams. He left as the Savior of Slam after a scintillating performance breathed new life into the dunk contest.

He will go to Toronto next weekend looking to repeat as champion, and he made it clear on Friday that he didn't use up all of his best dunks to win the first one.

"I've been practicing," LaVine said a day after it was announced that he will headline the event. "I've got some tricks up my sleeve."

LaVine will compete against Detroit center Andre Drummond, Denver swingman Will Barton and Orlando forward Aaron Gordon. Last year he blew away the field from the very first dunk, a through-the-legs reverse jam off of a bounce that let everyone know that this skinny 19-year-old meant business.

"I go knockout punch in the first round," LaVine said on his strategy. "That's what I did last year, I'm going to do it again this year. Last year I was mad. I thought every dunk was supposed to be a 50. I'm trying to get 50 on every dunk. That's the main thing."

His four dunks last year included his signature off-the-bounce, behind-the-back slam and two more between-the-legs efforts that included one thrown off the side of the basket by teammate Shabazz Muhammad, an electric compilation that some say was the best since Vince Carter's unparalleled performance in 2000.

"He was born for this contest," TNT analyst Kenny Smith said during the event.

LaVine said Friday that he saved one or two of his best dunks in his back pocket for future events, so there is more in store this time around.

Chelsea, Man United in stalemate; Arsenal rises

LONDON (AP)— Chelsea striker Diego Costa struck in stoppage time against Manchester United to maintain his scoring streak under interim manager Guus Hiddink, ensuring a 1-1 stalemate in Sunday's meeting of fallen Premier League powers.

Costa rounded goalkeeper David De Gea to net his sixth goal in seven league appearances under Hiddink and cancel out Jesse Lingard's 61st-minute volley.

"I think we played the majority of the game well," Lingard said. "After conceding late on it felt like a defeat but we have to move onto the next game now."

Although Hiddink's unbeaten record since replacing Jose Mourinho in December was preserved, Chelsea has drawn most of its league games— six of nine—to leave the defending champions mired in 13th place.

While Chelsea's only way to qualify for the Champions League is by winning the continental competition, the draw is more damaging for United, which is six points from neighbor Manchester City in fourth.

This was once one of the standout fixtures of the seasons but United's decline since Alex Ferguson's retirement in 2013 coupled with Chelsea's unexpected slump has made it a sideshow.

AP

Manchester United's captain Wayne Rooney gets in a shot despite the challenge of Chelsea's Gary Cahill during the English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Manchester United at Stamford Bridge stadium in London, Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016.

The improved performances recently by United, however, have lifted some of the gloom surrounding manager Louis van Gaal. United has not denied reports it is pursuing former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho as a possible replacement.

United dictated large parts of the game, making an assertive start at Stamford Bridge, passing with precision and speed across the field.

United came close, though, to conceding a penalty on the stroke of half-time when Daley Blind's arm blocked a shot by John Terry on the captain's first home appearance since announcing he will not be getting a new Chelsea contract.

"They're difficult ones for the referee, inside the box it's going in, it's got to be a penalty for me," Terry said.

Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois, having saved his team in the first half, denied both Wayne Rooney and Lingard after the break.

There was a blow for Chelsea approaching the hour when Kurt Zouma's right leg buckled after leaping for a high ball. The central defender was carried off on a stretcher. Hiddink said Zouma's injury, which he called a "hyperextension of the knee joint," will be examined Monday.

Within minutes United was in front, with Cameron Borthwick-Jackson's cross teed up by Rooney for Lingard to volley on the turn into the net.

Chelsea's response was Branislav Ivanovic's volley that De Gea saved.

But the goalkeeper was beaten in stoppage time. Blind slipped as Cesc Fabregas threaded the ball through the United defense and Costa withstood Cameron Borthwick-Jackson's challenge before rounding De Gea to score.

The result left United without a win over Chelsea since 2012.

"We had it so close but in the end Chelsea are always trying to score and create chances and they scored a late goal and we didn't have any time to try to come back," said United midfielder Juan Mata, who joined from Chelsea.

In other results, Arsenal ended a four-game winless run by scoring quick-fire goals to beat Bournemouth 2-0 on Sunday, rising to third in the Premier League.

Mesut Ozil tucked away the opener in the 23rd minute for his first goal since netting in December's reverse fixture against Bournemouth. And only 88 seconds later, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain struck to end a 17-month wait for a Premier League goal.

When the Gunners beat Bournemouth on Dec. 28 they had moved to the summit but they have fallen off the pace during a poor run since.

Leicester is now in front with Tottenham and Arsenal five points behind and only separated by goal difference. Manchester City dropped to fourth after losing to Leicester on Saturday.

Next Sunday sees City host Tottenham and Arsenal take on Leicester.

"In one week Leicester has beaten Liverpool and Man City," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said. "So that means suddenly they become the favorite in the league. That makes our game on Sunday a very big one.

"I think we needed to win the game (against Bournemouth). I do not want to be too dramatic with making statements. A football game away from home in the Premier League for anybody is difficult to win. We had to win. We won."

Bournemouth's task is survival. In its first season in the top flight, the south-coast club is five points above the relegation zone.

"We were slow out the blocks today," Bournemouth manager Eddie Howe said. "That's unlike us and when you give players of their quality that time on the ball they will punish you.

"The quality of the goals, especially the second one from a tight angle, made it difficult for us. After that we were unable to find a goal that would get us back into it and put them under pressure."

Willett prevails in Dubai Desert Classic; McIlroy drops to 6th

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Danny Willett withstood the pressure and made a 15-foot birdie putt on the final hole to win the Dubai Desert Classic title by one shot on Sunday.

The 28-year-old Willett closed with 3-under par 69 at Emirates Golf Club to finish on a 19 under 269, one shot better than fellow Englishman Andy Sullivan (68) and Spain's Rafael Cabrera-Bello (69).

Both Sullivan and Cabrera-Bello had set the marker with birdies on the final hole to take the clubhouse lead. Willett was one-over par for his last four holes after a bogey on the 14th.

But he made the birdie when it mattered most. He had to lay up from the rough on the 18th hole, and his third shot left him with a difficult downhill putt, which he read to perfection.

It was the fourth European Tour victory for Willett, who finished second in the Race to Dubai to Rory McIlroy last year.

The two pre-tournament favorites—McIlroy (65) and Henrik Stenson (66) —finished tied for sixth on 273.

Korea's Byeong Hun-An (65) and Spain's Alvaro Quiros (65) were in joint fourth on 272.

"I am just ecstatic," said Willett, who made six birdies during the final round to go along with bogeys on the 2nd, 9th and 14th holes. "You can't buy that feeling, you know, what it's like coming down the back nine, the back three, in contention of a golf tournament. It's something that you can't pay for in life. You've got to earn it.

"Obviously, coming down the last with all the situations that were going on - Sully (Sullivan) just birdied, Rafa (Cabrera-Bello) hit it two-on . it was just nice to know that I can dig deep there and produce what I can."

For Sullivan, it was the second straight runner-up finish in Dubai, having finished behind McIlroy at the DP World Tour Championship in November. But the 28-year-old Englishman was feeling more sorry for the small group of supporters from his home town of Nuneaton, who were following him around.

"Every time they have been there, I think I've done well. It's been awesome," said Sullivan, who had his "Team Sulli" in attendance during November's tournament as well.

"I feel a little bit gutted for the two times they come to Dubai and I have been a bridesmaid both times, but I'm sure they are proud," he said. "Fair play to Dan, holing that putt, that was a tough putt."

McIlroy was happy with his closing 65, but disappointed he could not do any better than 15 under.

"It's sort of a week of what could have been. There was a lot of really good golf in there. I played a lot of great shots and made a lot of birdies, but just made a few too many mistakes, as well," said the Northern Irishman.

"I'll rue the two front nines that I played on Friday and Saturday. Played the combined front nine 5-over par there and if I had not of done that, things could have been different."

Kendrick, Dodgers finalize $20 million, 2-year contract

LOS ANGELES (AP)— The Dodgers finalized their $20 million, two-year contract with free-agent Howie Kendrick on Saturday, bringing back the second baseman in part because of his willingness to play multiple positions.

Kendrick had turned down a $15.8 million, one-year qualifying offer from the team in November. That rejection left the Dodgers as the only club that could sign the 32-year-old without having to give up a 2016 amateur draft pick in the opening rounds as compensation.

After Kendrick's rejection, the team re-signed Chase Utley to a $7 million, one-year deal to split time at second with Kike Hernandez, who is recovering from right shoulder surgery. Third baseman Justin Turner is recovering from knee surgery.

Andrew Friedman, the Dodgers' president of baseball operations, said Kendrick re-entered consideration a couple of weeks ago when he said he wouldn't mind time at third.

"He expressed a willingness to play different spots, which just adds to the versatility to our roster," Friedman said. "We were looking for someone who could play second and third with Justin coming back from surgery and Kike coming back from surgery as well."

Friedman thinks there is enough playing time to go around for everyone.

"All it takes is one injury, and the depth we'll have on hand is really attractive to us," he said.

Kendrick batted .295 with nine home runs and 54 RBI last season, his first after the Dodgers acquired him from the Los Angeles Angels in December 2014. Utley, who is 37, batted .212.

Kendrick's deal includes annual salaries of $10 million, but half is deferred without interest. He will get $5 million payments on Dec. 15 in 2018 and 2019.

Tuttle, Woo survive first round of mixed-up doubles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mihoko Tuttle hits a low ball, while teammate Ji Min Woo looks on during a warm-up before their Round of 16 match against Grace Choi and Robbie Schorr in the mixed-up doubles event of the 2016 White Coconut Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Paciific Islands Club hard courts.

The tandem of Mihoko Tuttle and Ji Min Woo was among the pairs that made the grade in the opening round of the mixed-up doubles event in the 2016 White Coconut Tennis Classic.

Mihoko and Woo were at the bottom of the 32-team draw and advanced to the Round of 16 following a 6-4, 7-5 win against Tommy Choi and Andy Jung last Saturday at the at the Pacific Islands Club hard court.

Joining Woo and Mihoko to the next round were the teams of Carol Lee and the latter's daughter Ericka, Colim Ramsey and Rei Sekiguchi, Robbie Schorr and Grace Choi, Dylan Ackerman and Seung Jin Paik, Martin Jambor and Conatsu Kaga, Marivic Rosario and Sean Lee, and Tony Kim and Coume Kaga.

Coume and Tony marched into the Round of 16 after eliminating Michael Ren and Sam Ryu, 6-0, 6-2, while Rosario and Sean Lee advanced following a 6-2, 6-2 victory against the duo of Steven Goodwin and Rintaro Miyawaki.

Jambor and Conatsu also recorded similar 6-2, 6-2 triumphs over the pair of Ryan Cho and Anthony Gregoire to set up a Round of 16 date against Ackerman and Paik, who swept Randy Steele and Maaya Sato, 6-0, 6-3. Schorr and Grace also took only two sets to beat Reo Arriola and S.W. Lee, 6-3, 6-2, and arrange a meeting against Mihoko and Woo.

The other pairing at the bottom half of the draw will have Ramsey and Rei battling Carol and Erick after they topped Dun Dunlop and Go Sekiguchi, 6-4, 6-2, and Isabel heras and M.J. Cho, 6-1, 6-2, respectively.

At the top half of the draw, the Round of 16 qualifiers were Asia Raulerson and Moris Villanueva, Gary Ramsey and Maria Gregoire, Ryan Cho and Daniel Kang, Alex Martin and Jeffrey Seo, Peter Loken and Eugene Park, Vicent Tudela and Ryu, Jim Tuttle and Riko Ojima, and Jeff Race and Allan Lee.

Race and Lee won over Bobby Cruz and Thaileena Raulerson, 6-4, 6-3; Jim and Riko topped Malika Miyawaki and Annie Camacho, 6-1, 6-2; Loken and Park defeated Lydia Tan and Yae Jin Son, 6-3, 6-0; Martin and Seo slipped past Ken Song and Sean Sablan, 5-7, 7-6, 10-5; Ryan and Kang swept A.J. Hudkins and Randy Steele, 6-2, 6-1; Gary and Maria prevailed over Mimi Sakano and M. Ryu, 6-1, 6-1; Tudela and Sam beat Fr. Ryan Jimenez and JC Ferrer, 6-1, 6-1; and Asia and Villanueva triumphed over Eric Abragan and Hyun Jin Joo, 6-2, 6-1.

Action in the mixed-up doubles and the singles event will continue this weekend.

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played out - Manning walked away with his second Super Bowl title Sunday night, after Denver's defense all but handed him the Lombardi Trophy in a 24-10 victory over the Carolina Panthers.

A towel draped over his shoulder, his freshly printed championship hat on his head, Manning wouldn't budge on whether this was, in fact, his last game.

"I got some good advice from Tony Dungy," Manning said of the first of four coaches with whom he's been to the Super Bowl. "He said, 'Don't make an emotional decision.' This has been an emotional week, an emotional night. I'm going to take some time to reflect."

If part of the decision involves a peek back at this game, he won't like anything he sees, except the final score.

He was creaky, off-target at times. He got bamboozled into his first interception of this year's playoffs and could've thrown a few more if Panthers' defenders had better hands. Manning lost a fumble, as well.

His most important throw? Might have been the pass that flew 10 yards out of the end zone but drew a defensive holding call that set up the game-clinching touchdown late in the fourth quarter. Manning completed 13 passes for 141 yards and got the Broncos moving to start both halves.

That was plenty. Those small wisps of offense set up a few field goals, kept the Broncos in good field position - then allowed No. 18 and Co. to clear the way for a smothering, historically good defense that won the game with seven sacks and four turnovers.

Manning became the first quarterback to win the Super Bowl with two franchises. He joined his brother, Eli, and 10 other quarterbacks as multiple Super Bowl winners. He's been taking it week by week this year, insisting he's not thinking about what he'll do after the season. Now that it's over, he'll have to decide whether he wants to walk away on top—same as his boss, John Elway, did after he won his second title back in 1999.

After his final win, Elway took some time to reflect and admitted to himself that he couldn't grind another year.

Smart money has Manning making the same choice, and his father, Archie, suggested his kid's days in Denver are all but done.

"I want to hear his side of it first," Archie said, while standing against a wall outside the Broncos locker room. "I've got some ideas. I would never tell Peyton what to do. I'll lay some things out for him. He knows what to consider. If he wants to play some more football, he's going have to go to another team. He's going to be 40. But we have not talked about it."

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touchdowns during the regular season—and five more in the playoffs —failed to produce a TD running or throwing for the first time this season and the Panthers lost in Super Bowl 50. Carolina's only score came on a 1-yard run by Jonathan Stewart.

Newton didn't get a chance to give any balls away to kids on the front row of Levi's Stadium.

"This is one those things that is going to hurt," Rivera said of Newton. "It's going to hurt everybody for a while and hopefully after a few days we will get over it."

Newton has failed to score a TD eight times in his career, but none since Oct. 26, 2014.

Newton didn't get much help from his offensive line which allowed a Super Bowl record-tying seven sacks, or his wide receivers, who dropped big passes at key times.

Newton spent much of the game under heavy duress as the Panthers were unable to handle the pressure of Von Miller and DeMarcus Ware on the edges. Miller had 2 1/2 sacks, including two strip-sacks against overmatched right tackle Mike Remmers that led to Denver's two touchdowns.

"I don't think we played well around him," tight end Greg Olsen. "It was us not getting open, not catching balls that were tight but we have to come down with, we need to do a better job in the run game. This can't turn into the what-happened-to-Cam-Newton show."

Denver's first touchdown came when Miller blew past Remmers and ripped the ball out of Newton's grasp. Malik Jackson recovered the ball in the end zone for a touchdown to put the Panthers in an early 10-0 hole they could never dig out of.

Later, Miller beat Remmers for another strip sack and the Broncos put the game away with a touchdown and two-point conversion.

"I knew he was going to be really quick," Remmers said. "I knew he was going to be a tremendous athlete and it was going to be a big challenge."

Newton never looked comfortable in the pocket, sidearming throws, overthrowing wide receivers and generally running for his life.

Eventually frustration began to set it.

DEFENSE

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kids. ... I'm going to drink a lot of Budweiser tonight."

Denver's suffocating defense kept Newton jittery all day. Despite wearing gold shoes before the golden Super Bowl, Newton couldn't finish off a dynamic season in which he was the league's MVP. Miller twice stripped him, once for a touchdown, the second time setting up a clinching TD. Denver's top-ranked defense, the one that ran roughshod over Tom Brady in the AFC championship, simply wouldn't let Newton get comfortable.

"There was a certain point where it was like guys on the sideline were saying, 'Cam is very stressed,'" Broncos cornerback Bradley Roby said. "For two weeks straight that's all we heard was Cam this, Cam that, dab this, dab that. They were dabbing in their team photos. It was very disrespectful. We wanted to come out and prove that we're the best."

Newton was sacked six times—receiver Ted Ginn Jr., went down once on an aborted trick play—and if Miller wasn't torturing him, DeMarcus Ware was. Ware had two of the seven sacks, equaling the most by one team in the Super Bowl.

Carolina led the league with 500 points but was held to its fewest of the year, and Denver set an ignominious mark with 194 yards gained, the fewest for a Super Bowl winner.

So what: The Broncos (15-4) are champions and Manning is the first quarterback to win Super Bowls with two franchises, Indianapolis in 2007 was the other. Gary Kubiak is the first to win a Super Bowl as player and coach for the same team.

Manning finished 13 for 23 for 141 yards against a strong Carolina (17-2) defense that just couldn't match Miller and company.

"I feel very, very grateful," Manning said. ... "Obviously, it's very special to cap it off with a Super Bowl championship."

Denver's defense stole Carolina's act. The Panthers led the league with 39 takeaways and were a plus-20 in turnovers. On the Super Bowl stage, though, Assistant Coach of the Year Wade Phillips got his first ring because his unit was impenetrable.

It was a far cry from two years ago, when the Broncos were routed by Seattle 43-8.

"It feels great," said Miller, who had six tackles, 2 1-2 sacks, two hurries, the two forced fumbles and a pass defensed. "Peyton and DeMarcus and coach Phillips and all the guys that have been deserving their whole, whole career. I did this for them. I put my neck on the line for those guys."

Manning opened the game with an 18-yard completion to Owen Daniels, later hit Andre Caldwell for 22, and C.J. Anderson had a 13-yard run before Brandon McManus kicked a 34-yard field goal.

Carolina's Ron Rivera, the Coach of the Year, soon after lost a challenge on a pass to Jerricho Cotchery , and it was a key decision. Two plays later, Miller burst through and didn't even go for the sack. He reached directly for the ball, stripping it from Newton. It rolled to the goal line, where Malik Jackson pounced on it for a 10-0 lead.

Miller dabbed in the end zone in front of legions of orange-clad Broncos fans after Denver's first defensive touchdown in a Super Bowl.

Miller earns Super Bowl MVP honors

Back in the locker room after earning Super Bowl MVP honors, Miller danced and sang along to "Big Rings" by Drake and Future: "'Cause I got a really big team! And they need some really big rings!"

A few feet away, teammate Brandon Marshall explained why Miller's first-quarter strip-sack of Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton was such a significant moment in Denver's 24-10 victory Sunday night that earned rings for the Broncos.

"We got in (Newton's) head after that. We got in his mind. Because he hasn't been harassed like that all season," Marshall said.

Then, pounding his right fist in his left palm, Marshall added: "That play rattled him. That did it."

Five years after being drafted No. 2 behind Newton, Miller bothered Carolina's quarterback from start to finish Sunday, forcing two fumbles and compiling 2½ sacks in a showdown between a couple of shutdown defenses.

"I'm going for the ball every single time," said Miller, the second defensive MVP in the past three Super Bowls. "That's just the type of football player I am. If it was basketball, I'd definitely be a 3-point shooter."

Miller really was everywhere—and he did a bit of everything.

He created Denver's first touchdown by zooming past right tackle Mike Remmers ripping the football away from Newton, honored as the regular-season MVP on Saturday. The fumble bounced into the end zone, where defensive end Malik Jackson landed on it to put the Broncos ahead 10-0 about 8 1/2 minutes into the game.

Saipan football fans tune in to Super Bowl 50

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Count Saipan football fans to the estimated 189 million people who watched yesterday's Super Bowl 50 as they trooped the various bars and restaurants on island to root for eventual champions Denver Broncos and the Carolina Panthers.

Some took a leave from work just to see how the Broncos' defense crushed the Panthers en route to a 24-10 win, others sneaked in for a quarter or two, and one brought his entire family for good food and happy crowd.

"It's my first time to watch in five years and I made sure I will be able to go out with my friends and enjoy the game by filing a leave of absence from work as early as November last year," said Juan Camacho, who cheered for the Panthers and came with a friend that just took a few hours from work to catch the action.

"I like Cam Newton…he beat by favorite college team (Oregon State)," added Camacho, who watched the match at Tribes Bar.

Over at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club, Rex Palacios was also with some friends and preferred seeing Super Bowl away from home.

"When you're here with your friends, you can cheer as loud as you want. There's no wife to tell you to calm down and keep quiet," a smiling Palacios said.

Over 100 packed the Charley's Cabaret and they included schoolmates Abbas Shakir and Juan Blanco, who are both supporters of the Broncos. They've been watching Super Bowl for the past several years with Juan taking a cue from his dad John, a Commonwealth Football League official.

"Watching football, especially the Super Bowl, gives me more idea how to play the game and become a better player. I also get to spend time with friends," Juan said.

"It's more interesting and exciting to watch Super Bowl outside our home because it feels like we're actually in the field, witnessing every plays," Shakir said.

Len Sablan, an MMA practitioner, was also among the spectators at PIC, and said football is harder than his sport as he saw how the Broncos defense ganged up on Newton.

"People are coming everywhere and you don't know who is going to hit you, unlike in MMA, you have only one opponent," Sablan said.

As for Rico Morales, watching Super Bowl means introducing the sport he likes to his daughter Stephanie.

"She wanted to come with me and see how the game is played. She is curious on why a lot of people are interested in watching Super Bowl. If we will watch it at home, it may bore her, so I decided it's better to bring her here," said Morales, who was at Naked Fish.

Ted Guerrero was also at Naked Fish, tagging along with him his wife and kid.

"We've got nothing more interesting to do at home, so it's better to spend it here, enjoy the game, and meet old friends," Guerrero said.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Chambre Bar, World Resort's Red Box, and Best Sunshine Live also hosted Super Bowl 50 and drew sizeable crowd, which they treated not only to good food, but also with some raffle prizes.

Ray Lizama was among the lucky winners at Best Sunshine Live, bringing home a cooler from MARPAC/Budweiser. Fiesta gave away brunch and dinner certificates and products from its sponsor Pacific Trading, Co.

"I came here to see the facility for the first time and watch Super Bowl. I enjoyed the food and the crowd and it's just a bonus to win in the raffle draw, plus Manning's team won. I wanted to see the guy (Manning), a future Hall of Famer, win the Super Bowl in what could be his swan song," Lizama said.

Spectators at Tribes Bar celebrate after the Carolina Panthers scored a touchdown against the Denver Broncos in yesterday's Super Bowl 50.

Spectators at Best Sunshine Live watch the halftime show.

Broncos fans pose for a photo at Naked Fish during the halftime show.

Fiesta Resort & Spa employees pose with one of the winners of their raffle prizes.

Juan Blanco participates in the football throw at Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

DJ Dice, left, and MARPAC/Budweiser's Ray Alvarez lead the awarding of raffle prizes to spectators at Best Sunshine Live.

Spectators at Chambre Bar of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan celebrate after the Broncos scored.

Magic beat Hawks on Vucevic's shot, 96-94

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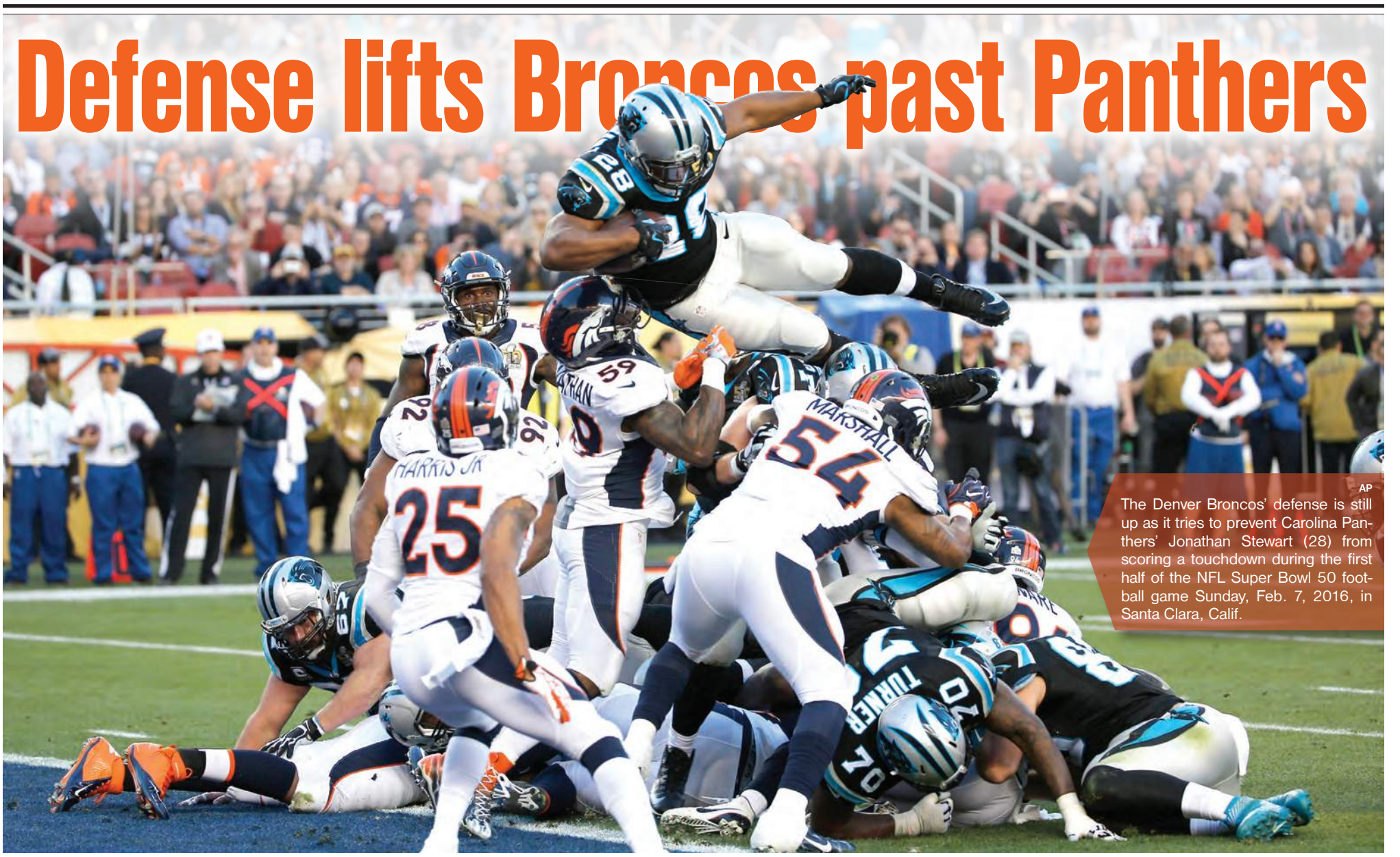
Defense lifts Broncos past Panthers



AP

The Denver Broncos' defense is still up as it tries to prevent Carolina Panthers' Jonathan Stewart (28) from scoring a touchdown during the first half of the NFL Super Bowl 50 football game Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, in Santa Clara, Calif.

By BARRY WILNER
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—A reborn Orange Crush might have sent Peyton Manning into retirement with a Super ending to his career.

Von Miller and the impenetrable Denver defense harassed Panthers quarterback Cam Newton all game Sunday, and the Broncos made enough big plays for a 24-10 victory, Manning's 200th and perhaps his last before retirement.

He wasn't the star of Super Bowl 50—game MVP Miller seemingly was everywhere on every Carolina play—but Manning really hasn't been the headliner in this injury-shortened season.

"This game was much like this season has been, testing our toughness, our resiliency, our unselfishness," he said. "It's only fitting that it turned out that way."

Emulating his Broncos boss, John Elway, the 39-year-old Manning can ride off with the Lombardi Trophy after leading Denver to its third NFL title, first since 1999 - when Elway was the quarterback.

"I'll take some time to reflect," Manning said when asked if this is the end. "I got a couple priorities first. I'm going to go kiss my wife and my

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Newton struggles in 1st Super Bowl

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

AP

Carolina Panthers' Cam Newton (1) tries to throw with Denver Broncos' Malik Jackson (97) defending during the first half of the NFL Super Bowl 50 football game Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, in Santa Clara, Calif.

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—A dejected Cam Newton sat slouching behind the podium on Sunday night, wearing a black Panthers hoodie and a frown.

The league's top player this season didn't feel much like answering questions, doing so mostly in delayed one- and two-word answers. Some questions he just let pass without answering at all— except for one which said it all.

"They made more plays than us and that's what it comes down to," Newton said during a brief three-minute interview following Carolina's 24-10 Super Bowl loss to Denver. "We had our opportunities and it was nothing special that they did. We dropped balls. We turned the ball over. We gave up sacks. We threw errant passes. That's it."

Newton's dream season ended with a nightmare performance.

Fresh off being earning his first MVP award on Saturday night, the Panthers fifth-year quarterback was stymied by an aggressive Denver Broncos defense in his first Super Bowl appearance on Sunday.

The 6-foot-5, 245-pound quarterback who scored 45

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No masterpiece, but Manning rides off with a win vs Newton

By EDDIE PELLS
AP NATIONAL WRITER

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—The best thing for Peyton Manning is that he won the Super Bowl.

A close second: He never has to lace 'em up again.

Constantly harassed, never quite comfortable - sort of the way the whole season has

See NO on Page 26

AP

Denver Broncos' Peyton Manning holds up the trophy after the NFL Super Bowl 50 football game Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, in Santa Clara, Calif.